

Success or otherwise of Local Committees (Paras. 237 to 241).—Mr. Hankey says that his bias is in favor of committees in Bengal, and he has derived valuable assistance from them in more advanced parts of the country; but he points out their present inefficiency in Chittagong. The members of the committees do not as a rule take any interest in the proceedings, and the whole duty falls upon the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman. The Lieutenant-Governor fully trusts that this state of things will soon be much improved.

11. *Statistical Inquiries (Paras. 163 to 167).*—The Commissioner reports that the only subject in respect of which statistical information was gathered, is the registration of vital statistics in certain selected areas. The establishments for the collection of statistical information had not yet been employed, and Chittagong is not one of the divisions in which special inquiries have been instituted. But orders for the collection in all districts of certain agricultural statistics had been issued, and inquiries must be made why they have not been commenced in Chittagong.

12. *General State of Police, Crime, &c. (Paras. 168 to 177).*—The new Chowkeedaree Law (Act VI [B. C.] of 1870) is said not to have succeeded in Chittagong. Mr. Clay gives his own opinion, which is concurred in by the Commissioner, that it is unsuited to this district. It gives, they say, the punchayets too much power, which if they do not abuse, it is only because they are afraid of the villagers and dare not, in which case they do nothing, and the law remains a dead letter. The theory, says Mr. Clay, is no doubt excellent; but in practice the scheme fails, because it is unsuited to the people, who neither appreciate its advantages nor honestly endeavour to promote its real object. No doubt it is only gradually, and with the real aid of Government officers, that such a system can be worked out. In Rajshahye it was said to be remarkably successful. Why should it be so very far otherwise in Chittagong?

The remarks and the observations of the Commissioner on the subject of police will receive the Lieutenant-Governor's consideration in the Judicial Department.

13. *Land Revenue Administration (Paras. 178 to 182).*—It is estimated that an area equal to about one-fourth of the entire district of Chittagong, being expired *noabad* and other Government lands, is now coming under re-settlement, and the subject will engage the attention of the Government.

14. *Conduct of Zemindars (Paras. 256 to 265).*—From the scattered position of their estates, the zemindars of Chittagong do not exercise great local influence or authority. In the Tipperah district they are mostly absentees, and do little or nothing for the district. His Honor recognizes the favorable testimony borne by the Commissioner to Baboo Kanta Prosad Hazaree and Abdool Maleom of Chittagong, and Baboo Anoda Prosad Roy of Tipperah, for their liberality and public spirit. The unsatisfactory relations between the Messrs. Courjon and their tenants in Noacolly have been the subject of special report.

The Maharanee Surnomoyee of Cossim Bazar has extended her munificence to this division. The Lieutenant-Governor has frequently acknowledged her generous liberality, and is glad to do so again in this place.

* * * * *

16. The Lieutenant-Governor desires to convey his cordial thanks to Mr. Hankey for his very active and efficient administration of the division during the year.

PUBLIC OFFICERS TRANSFERRED TO NATIVE STATES.

No. 2321, dated Simla, the 15th August 1873.

RESOLUTION—By the Government of India, Financial Department.

Letter from the Accountant-General, Punjab, No. 676M, dated 15th July 1873, reporting that it has been arranged that Assistant Surgeon C. W. Calthrop, whose services have been lent to His Highness the Maharajah of Puttiala, shall pay into the Amballa treasury only the percentage required to be contributed by him for pension, &c.; and observing that in the case of certain officers who have been lent to Native States, the gross salary is recovered by the British Government from the Native States, the net salary (where there is a deduction for pension) being alone paid to the officer: this course being necessary in order that the Account Office may be able to check leave and pension applications, and also to exercise a check over the allowances to be drawn for.

RESOLUTION.—The practice reported by the Accountant-General, Punjab, of recovering gross salary from Native States is not correct; it is an essential provision of chapter VII of the Civil Pension Code that the Government shall have no concern with the payments made to the officers lent or transferred; and the Governor-General in Council, therefore, directs that the practice in the Punjab be discontinued.

2. His Excellency in Council is further pleased to rule that the pay or salary of an officer lent or transferred to a Native State, &c., under the rules in chapter VII of the Civil Pension Code, must, in every case, be fixed with the consent of the Government of India, and that the officer shall not accept increase of pay or allowances without the previous sanction of the Government of India. The contribution for absentee allowance and pension required under section 35 of the Code must, with reference to rule 4 of the section, be made by the officer, and not by the authority under which he is serving.

3. The Governor-General in Council further desires that an officer whose services are thus lent or transferred shall furnish all information required by the Accountant-General with whom he is concerned.

ORDER.—Ordered, that the foregoing resolution be communicated to the several departments of the Government of India, the several local Governments and Administrations, the Comptroller-General, the several Accountants-General, and the several Deputy Accountants-General in independent charge.

Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather, State and Prospects of the Crops in the different Districts of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending the 30th August 1873.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sadler Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BENGAL.						
<i>Western Districts.</i>		1873.				
BRIDGWAY DIVISION.	1 Burdwan	Sept. 2nd*	1.52	Weather sultry. Rain wanted everywhere.	Prospects of crops same as before.	Fever increasing.
	2 Bankoorah	Aug. 30th	1.32	Showers on the 28th and 29th; rest of the week dry.	The crops generally are doing well, and were benefited by the rain. The aus crop is beginning to ripen.	
	3 Berhampore	" 30th	1.76	Hot and dry in the first half of the week; heavy rain in the latter half.	Prospects of crops generally good.	Cholera still prevalent in some villages, and fever in the south-eastern parts of the district.
	4 Midnapore	" 30th	0.97	Sensible	Generally promising	Fever is reported from all quarters of the north-east of the district.
	5 Hooghly	" 30th	1.27	Clear and cloudy; very little rain.	The prospects of the crops are very favorable.	
	6 Howrah	" 30th	1.87	There was rain more or less for five days throughout the district.	Transplantation of amun rice crop is nearly completed. In some places the ryots have commenced to reap the aus crop and to cut jute. The jute, it is feared, is inferior.	
<i>Central Districts.</i>						
PRESIDENCY DIVISION.	7 24-Pergunnahs	Sept. 2nd*	3.22	Weather very warm and close during the first part of the week; heavy showers have since fallen.	The harvest has commenced at Barnack and Barreepore. Transplantation of amun still going on.	General health good; ordinary fever still prevails at Katkibali and Barreepore; two cases of cholera reported at Ah-pore.
	8 Nudda	Aug. 30th	1.15	Hot and sensible	The reaping of aus dhun has commenced, and prospects are generally favorable. There is no apprehension of inundation.	Season remarkably healthy.
	9 Jessore	" 30th	1.41	Bright, sunny, and very warm.	The transplantation of the amun rice is going on rapidly. Prospects good. Indigo manufacture is still going on.	
RAJSHAHY DIVISION.	10 Moorshedabad	" 30th	1.06	No rain at the beginning of the week, but a good deal has fallen in the last two days. Extremely close.	A good harvest of aus expected in the north. Amun very backward, but will improve with more rain. The rapid fall of the river is however, likely to cause damage.	
	11 Dinagepore	" 30th	0.16	Very hot and stormy during the first three days, with very slight showers and a good breeze the last three days.	More rain wanted in most parts of the districts, especially in the south, where cultivation is very backward owing to want of floods in the river.	
	12 Maldah	" 30th	0.59	The first five days hot, dry, and sultry, the last two days cloudy and stormy; slight rain on Saturday.	There has not been sufficient rain. The crops will be much below the average.	
	13 Rajshahye	" 30th	1.37	There has been very slight rain throughout the district during the week, and the heat has been intense.	The prospects of the rapa dhun crop are extremely unfavorable owing to the want of rain; should it not rain plentifully within ten or fifteen days, there will be no transplanting in the high lands in the west of the district. The broad-cast amun and aus are doing better than the rapa, but require more rain. Aus is being reaped in some parts. Mulberry, sugarcane, and arhar are thriving.	Fever raging in a village near Natore owing to putrid state of water in tanks and holes. Measures being taken to improve the state of things by letting in river water.
	14 Rangpore	" 30th	0.85	Excessively hot	Jute being cut; a short crop. More rain wanted for the rice.	

* Telegram of the 2nd September received on the same day. Shows the rainfall during the seven days immediately preceding.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	REMARKS.
BENGAL.—(Contd.)						
<i>Central Districts.—(Contd.)</i>		1873.				
COOCH BEHAR DIVISION. RAJSHAHY DIV.	14 Bograh	Aug. 30th	0.33	Very little rain has fallen lately. The weather has been hot.	Transplantation of amon crops has been interfered with by the want of rain. The prospects of amon harvest are not at all good.	
	15 Pubna	" 30th	1.50	Hot. There was a good shower at the latter end of the week.	Prospect of the amon dhan is not favorable owing to the sudden fall of the river.	
	16 Barjeeling	" 30th	4.16	Frequently heavy down-pours of rain and intervals of bright sunshine.	With the exception of the slight loss already reported owing to the want of rain some weeks back, all the crops, both in the hills and the terai, are progressing favorably.	
	17 Julpigoree	" 30th	1.31	From 21st to 28th inclusive there was no rain, and very great heat. A little rain fell on the 29th, and there is promise of more.	The bhadoi dhan has proved an average crop. Jute cutting has commenced; crops good. Hymantee dhan being transplanted, and if rain continues, will do well.	General health of the district is very good. Much less fever than usual at this time of year.
	Cooch Behar	" 30th	0.50	Very hot most of the week.	More rain is wanted.	
<i>Eastern Districts.</i>						
Dacca Division.	18 Dacca	Sept. 2nd*	2.24	Weather showery, with sunshine.	Prospects of crops good.	Public health good. Rivers rising.
	19 Furreedpore	Aug. 30th	1.85	Hot and cloudy, with showers of rain.	The aus crop has almost been reaped; other crops on the whole doing well, especially in the south.	
	20 Backergunge	" 30th	2.02	Saltry; there has been comparatively little rain this week.	Fair. The transplanting of the amon is going on. The aus crop is being cut, and is deficient in quantity. The jute crop has also been less this year. Sugarcane reported good.	
	21 Mymensing	" 30th	0.90	Weather generally dry and hot. Rain at the sudder station on two days of the week.	There has not been sufficient rain for the amon rice, and it is feared the culture will be a poor one. The aus crop is fully one-fourth below the average. Cutting of jute has commenced.	
	22 Sylhet	" 23rd	11.94	Very heavy rain on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. Weather sultry since.	Aus crop not yet all cut. The shuker crop is being planted out. More rain wanted for the amon and katere crops.	
CHITTAGONG DIVISION.	23 Cachar	" 23rd	2.64	Hot and sultry, with slight rain.	The crops are progressing satisfactorily. Weather good for tea.	
	24 Chittagong	" 23rd	1.22	Fine and generally calm.	Crops doing well. Aus is being cut in some places.	
	25 Nonkhally	" 23rd	2.77	The continued heavy rain since the commencement of July came to an end this week, which has been for the most part clear. The weather has been very hot and close.	The gathering of aus dhan nearly completed; the transplanting of amon dhan not yet finished.	
	26 Tipperah	" 30th	8.83	Very hot and oppressive; two very heavy storms during the nights of Monday and Wednesday. The Brahmoemburiah rainfall has been some 15 inches less than at head-quarters.	Prospects continue to be satisfactory in central and south Tipperah, but still no rain falls on the north.	
	27 Chittagong Hill Tracts	" 23rd	2.03	Rain and sunshine alternately throughout the week.	Satisfactory. Aus dhan has been cut in some joints.	
	Hill Tipperah	" 23rd	6.06	Heavy rain on the 17th, 22nd, and 23rd; weather cloudy and very warm.	Transplanting of paddy still going on, prospects very good; the heavy rains which fell during the week has done good to the crops. The jute cultivation on the hills flourishing.	

* Telegram of the 2nd September received on the same day. Shows the rainfall during the seven days immediately preceding.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BEHAR.						
		1873.				
PATNA DIVISION.	28 Patna	Sept. 2nd*	0.33	Weather reasonable and much more bearable than it was at the time of last report. Rain has fallen generally throughout the district.	More rain wanted to save what remains of the bhadoi and for transplanting the rice.	Cholera still bad in Behar, and single cases scattered throughout the district.
	29 Gaya	Aug. 30th	0.36	Hot and close	Bhadoi crops have begun to be harvested; the general out-turn is expected to be poor. The transplantation of paddy is approaching completion. More rain required.	
	30 Shahabad	" 30th	0.28	Hot and clear at commencement of the week; showery since Thursday; cloudy and threatening now.	Aughani rice still being transplanted; recent showers have done general good. More rain much required.	Cholera disappearing.
	31 Tirhut	" 30th	1.37	Hot and cloudy. Easterly wind prevailing.	The prospect of bhadoi crop is hopeful, but the rice crop in the east and north-east of the district is suffering from want of rain. The rivers Bogmati, Ganduck, and Chota Ganduck have risen high.	Cholera still prevailing. In some places on the west of the district a number of fatal cases have occurred.
	32 Saran	" 30th	1.18	First five days close and sultry; last two days cloudy and reasonable. Direction of wind variable.	Prospects of crops fair; dry weather has done good to the bhadoi crops after the recent heavy rain. More rain wanted for the rice crops.	Cholera and small-pox decreasing.
	33 Champarn	" 30th	0.30	Very hot during the first part of the week. Sultry and cloudy during the latter. East wind prevailing.	The prospects of the crops continue favorable, but more rain is required.	Cholera continues unabated in the south of the district.
BHAUGPUR DIVISION.	34 Monghyr	" 30th	1.57	Seasonable	Decidedly good on the whole. The bhadoi crop is being reaped. Accounts from sub-divisions favorable.	
	35 Bhagalpur	Sept. 2nd*	0.65	Little rain to the south of the Ganges, heavy rain in the north, but not general.	Reaping of bhadoi commenced, which is on the whole good. Heavy and general rain throughout the district most necessary; a large area for aughani rice still remains untransplanted.	General health very good.
	36 Purneah	Aug. 30th	1.17	Very hot, and sun very powerful during the early part of the week.	The aughani, which has been transplanted, has been scorched up by the heat. More rain is urgently wanted, particularly in the north.	
	37 Southal Pergunnahs	" 30th	1.80	Very hot and dry everywhere till Friday, when it began to blow and rain.	A little anxiety was beginning to be felt at the cessation of rain last week. Now everything looks as well as possible again. Janera nearly ripe.	
ORISSA.						
ORISSA DIVISION.	38 Cuttack	"	"	"	"	Return not received.
	39 Pooree	" 23rd	1.23	The weather has been hot with slight rains.	The weeding and transplanting operations in arund fields of Pergunnahs Chobiscod, Rahang, Bajrakat, Audhori, and others were finished last week. Transplanting is also going on in arund fields of Kothder, Kalijodi, and others. The young arund plants of certain villages of Pergunnah Pachindoi, Lembai, Banchas, Antodah, and others are suffering from want of rain. The young beali plants of Pergunnahs Rahang, Serai, Kodrubang, Lembai, &c., seem thriving. The cold weather crops are generally promising.	

* Telegram of the 2nd September received on the same day. Shows the rainfall during the seven days immediately preceding.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	REMARKS.
ORISSA.—(Contd.)		1873.				
40	Balasore	Aug. 30th	3.16	Alternate sun and rain.	Thriving, except in parts on the south-west boundary of the district, where rainfall has been deficient.	
CHOTA NAGPORE. South-West Frontier Agency.						
41	Hazarebaugh	" 30th	0.87	Weather fine and hot, with occasional clouds. No rain until the close of the week.	Anxiety beginning to be felt regarding the rice crop on the higher land; rain is again wanted, especially in the north-east of the district. Transplanting is still going on.	
42	Lohardugga	" 30th	0.66	Bright, with hot sun; no rains for the past 10 days until the 29th August.	The reports from all parts of the district are good, and prospects generally are very favorable.	
43	Singhbhum	" 23rd	2.20	Most part of the week has been hot, sunny weather; during three days there were heavy showers of rain.	Favorable. The break in the rains is just what was wanted.	Cholera in Serma-keva and Dab-bhoom, but reported as abating.
44	Maunbhoom	" 30th	0.35	Favorable.	The prospects of the crops in general are good, and will be benefited by the rain which fell on the 29th, of which want was beginning to be felt.	Cholera still prevalent in a few localities.
ASSAM AND ADJACENT HILLS.						
45	Goalpara	" 23rd	4.11	The whole week was cloudy and rainy, except on Wednesday and Thursday.	Transplantation of winter rice crops is again taken up in some parts, though late in the season. The cutting of ashur dhan is nearly finished. A full return was the result. Other crops getting on well.	
46	Kamrup	Sept. 1st*	3.02	The weather was hot and clear, with occasional rain.	Ans crop has been almost gathered in; outturn deficient. Shabee dhan is being transplanted; looks poor for want of rain. Prospects of tea, cotton, and sugarcane favorable.	Public health good.
47	Darrang	Aug. 23rd	1.61	Sultry, foggy mornings, frequent south-west squalls.	The ryots are complaining of the dry, hot weather. They cannot complete their dhan planting in high land without heavy rain. Tea prospects favorable.	
48	Nowgong	" 23rd	1.65	Weather unsensational, strong winds and light showers. Rainfall very scanty.	The shabee crop must suffer if more rain does not fall. Rainfall much behind what it should be. Tea operations doing fairly well.	Weather unhealthy and changes of temperature most sudden and marked. A great deal of fever and bowel complaint flying about. No fresh cases of cholera; cattle murrain not yet quite died out. A few cases of small-pox amongst Hateras.
49	Bachasagor	" 23rd	0.82	Fair, with showers occasionally at night.	The rice crop is backward for want of rain; unless it comes soon, the crop will be a short one. Tea doing well.	Cattle disease less.
50	Luckimpore	" 23rd	5.42	The first five days of the week were very wet, the rain coming down heavily both morning and evening; the last two days dry and hot. North Luckimpore.—Weather same as last week, till Friday, when strong south-west winds sprang up, and have continued since in squalls, with rain. Temperature much cooler.	Satisfactory.	

* Telegram of the 1st September received on the same day. Shows the rainfall during the seven days immediately preceding.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	REMARKS.
ASSAM AND ADJACENT HILLS.—(Contd.)		1873.				
51	Naga Hills	Aug. 16th	0.24	The weather has been clear and fine all over the district.	Favorable reports are being received of the joom crops. The whole of the pathur lands have not been sown yet; but what has been planted out, is reported favorably.	
52	Khasi & Jynteah Hills	.. 23rd	6.12	The rainfall generally has been very heavy and appears likely to continue.	The standing crops—dhan, millet, johstara—are looking healthy.	
53	Garo Hills	.. 23rd	4.45	Showery. Very heavy rain on Monday. Thunder-storm on Friday afternoon. Weather clear prior to storm.	There is nothing much to remark about the crops. There has been no change since last report.	

Published for general information.

CALCUTTA, STATISTICAL DEPT.,
The 2nd September 1873.R. KNIGHT,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Weekly Report of Rainfall compiled at the Meteorological Reporter's Office.

DIVISION.	DISTRICT.	STATION.	Rain from 10th to 16th Aug. 1873.	Rain from 17th to 23rd Aug. 1873.	RAIN FROM 1ST JANUARY 1873.	REMARKS.	
			Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Up to date.	
BENGAL.							
BURDWAN.	WESTERN DISTRICTS.					1873.	
	Burdwan	Burdwan	6.95	1.79	51.12	23rd August.	
		Chitran	5.43	2.68	34.15	ditto.	
		Chitran	6.23	1.21	40.01	ditto.	
		Boal Road	7.91	0.19	41.40	ditto.	
		Rameswari	7.17	2.37	35.85	ditto.	
	Bansoorah	Jhansabul	4.92	2.19	37.70	ditto.	
		Bansoorah	7.54	2.29	41.06	ditto.	
		Saigra	8.23	2.61	45.92	ditto.	
		Mahaspore	1.61	0.13	38.71	ditto.	
		Tinabook	2.67	1.51	33.92	ditto.	
	Midnapore	Gudhetta	5.07	0.23	40.20	ditto.	
		Contai	6.74	1.27	39.22	ditto.	
		{ Dy. Coll. Office		6.78	1.57	31.97	ditto.
		{ Exe. Engrs. Office		5.13	0.15	32.91	ditto.
		Roachly	3.75	1.25	36.12	ditto.	
	Howrah	Howrah	5.91	1.59	36.69	ditto.	
	CENTRAL DISTRICTS.						
FARRUKH.	24-Pargannahs	Sagar Island	2.70	0.56	30.53	ditto.	
		Cowdita	5.20	0.11	31.02	ditto.	
		Alipore	1.62	1.68	35.37	ditto.	
		Alipore Jail	1.86	2.12	35.38	ditto.	
		Busserbant	5.85	Nil	34.17	ditto.	
	Nuddea	Banarhat	1.75	1.86	31.97	ditto.	
		Diamond Harbour	1.87	3.80	37.51	ditto.	
		Buraspore	2.90	1.71	30.29	ditto.	
		Satkhara	5.67	2.86	38.79	ditto.	
		Barrackpore	1.91	1.83	38.51	ditto.	
	Jessore	Dum-Dum	7.51	1.85	38.97	ditto.	
		Kishoreganj	5.66	0.72	45.12	ditto.	
		Gaous	4.29	0.29	35.90	ditto.	
		Meherpur	8.02	1.72	41.32	ditto.	
		Choudhura	7.13	2.28	38.58	ditto.	
	Moorsheadabad	Choudhura	5.63	0.73	35.59	ditto.	
		Rumaila	5.24	1.75	38.95	ditto.	
		Jessore	3.13	1.74	37.88	ditto.	
		Narail	10.50	0.81	23.67	ditto.	
		Khoshdih	10.30	0.55	26.53	ditto.	
	Rajshahy.	Jamshaid	5.91	0.50	35.79	ditto.	
		Maiphat	5.81	2.01	34.69	ditto.	
		Majumdar	5.87	0.11	37.90	ditto.	
		Barhampur	5.73	0.73	24.16	ditto.	
		Rameswari	2.30	1.82	27.51	ditto.	
	Rangpur	City Moorsheadabad	2.62	0.61	26.61	ditto.	
		Jamshaid	6.73	1.77	25.68	ditto.	
		Amraut	4.25	1.05	29.11	ditto.	
		Lalga	8.45	1.55	32.61	ditto.	
		Dinapore	8.01	0.50	11.13	ditto.	
	Bhagalpur	Maldah	3.13	1.30	20.55	ditto.	
		Malda	3.05	1.35	20.27	ditto.	
		Rangpur	0.18	2.82	16.59	ditto.	
		Nalora	8.00	4.05	11.25	ditto.	
		Rangpur	6.57	1.16	59.77	ditto.	
	COCH BEHAR.	Bhagalpur	Talaha	6.87	4.18	66.25	ditto.
Bograh			5.55	1.07	32.88	ditto.	
Palam			5.46	0.27	25.63	ditto.	
Palam			1.95	3.20	59.09	ditto.	
Serampore							
Darjeeling	Darjeeling	{ Telegraph Office	Not rec.	Not rec.	37.84	31st July.	
		{ Hospital	7.90	2.12	62.50	23rd August.	
	Jalpaiguri	Jalpaiguri	4.50	5.09	68.14	ditto.	
		Palchitta	6.80	7.11	91.65	ditto.	
		Bokali	2.63	5.06	55.66	ditto.	
Cooch Behar Tributary	Cooch Behar	4.77	10.21	101.54	ditto.		
	Bhata	0.25	17.18	147.95	ditto.		
	EASTERN DISTRICTS.						
	Dacca.	Dacca	Dacca	5.97	2.73	37.52	ditto.
			Hospital	6.98	3.11	51.60	ditto.
Monsheerabad			6.09	1.52	55.90	ditto.	
Manikganj			4.81	2.58	39.03	ditto.	
Farrukpur			4.05	1.72	35.12	ditto.	
Bagerhat	Bagerhat	Gadgudi	3.83	0.79	32.28	ditto.	
		Buragudi	5.31	2.17	48.83	ditto.	
		Buragudi	1.21	3.11	44.94	ditto.	
		Madhupur	1.51	1.29	50.26	ditto.	
		Madhupur	1.54	0.76	39.19	ditto.	
Mymensingh	Mymensingh	Dowlat Khan	11.14	4.17	77.53	ditto.	
		Mymensingh	2.66	6.52	55.86	ditto.	
		Jamshaid	5.93	3.25	47.30	ditto.	
		Atish	3.35	0.07	37.95	ditto.	
		Kishoreganj	6.19	0.52	55.29	ditto.	
Sylhet	Sylhet	Sylhet	5.98	10.18	165.85	ditto.	
		Cachar	2.79	2.01	79.61	ditto.	
		Ry. Inamty	1.65	Not rec.	61.57	16th August.	
		Kova	1.60	7.27	65.51	23rd August.	
		Chittagong	8.00	1.70	37.18	ditto.	
CHITTAGONG.	Chittagong	Chittagong	6.96	2.25	61.18	ditto.	
		Jail	10.83	Not rec.	57.82	16th August.	
		Chittagong	5.45	1.81	48.31	23rd August.	
		Chittagong	7.06	2.60	38.00	ditto.	
		Chittagong	1.10	3.19	47.21	ditto.	
Tipperah	Chittagong Hill Tract	5.25	2.1	54.42	ditto.		
	Tipperah	6.23	0.0	19.51	ditto.		

DIVISION.	DISTRICT.	STATION.	Rain from	Rain from	RAIN FROM 1ST		REMARKS.	
			10th to 10th	17th to 23rd	JANUARY 1873.			
			August 1873.	August 1873.	Inches.	Up to date.		
BENAR.			Inches.	Inches.	1873.			
PATNA.	Patna	Patna	8.16	4.19	28.72	23rd August.		
		Behar	7.81	1.58	34.45	ditto.		
		Barh	6.18	1.15	31.91	ditto.		
		Dumrao... (Jail)	7.50	0.10	31.26	ditto.		
	Gya	Dumrao... (Cantonment)	8.70	0.50	32.85	ditto.		
		Gya	6.75	0.51	30.85	ditto.		
		Nowahat	4.50	2.50	30.72	ditto.		
		Arumabad	8.21	0.50	30.71	ditto.		
	Shahabad	Jehanabad	5.00	0.22	30.50	ditto.		
		Arrah	6.44	1.00	31.32	ditto.		
TIRHUT.		Sasaram	2.17	0.46	32.45	ditto.		
		Barua	5.95	0.05	20.13	ditto.		
	Barhach	2.71	0.80	32.53	ditto.			
	Muzaffarpore	1.80	1.21	21.62	ditto.			
	Burhachogh	2.47	1.54	19.08	ditto.			
	Hajipur	8.61	0.13	33.35	ditto.			
	Mudhobani	2.10	0.35	21.47	ditto.			
	Seetampur	5.70	1.30	32.10	ditto.			
	Tripore	4.17	1.25	26.73	ditto.			
	Chuprah	6.29	0.30	31.61	ditto.			
SARAN.	Champur	Kauria	6.58	0.83	30.30	ditto.		
		Alota-chura	7.62	2.70	33.98	ditto.		
		Patna	3.95	3.00	32.19	ditto.		
		Monghyr	7.81	1.20	31.14	ditto.		
	Monghyr	Bong-seni	8.90	3.02	29.71	ditto.		
		Jamuna	5.08	1.14	30.60	ditto.		
		Banaraspore	2.68	0.21	24.44	ditto.		
		Seetpur	1.47	1.25	21.65	ditto.		
	Bhagalpur	Mudhobani	2.90	1.00	26.59	ditto.		
		Banika	2.28	0.32	28.65	ditto.		
PURNIAH.		Sankar	1.23	5.64	24.20	ditto.		
		Purneah	3.68	2.42	31.50	ditto.		
	Kachhura	2.47	2.15	33.66	ditto.			
	Arrah	6.75	1.00	35.78	ditto.			
	Sonhat Pergumna	Bachur	2.70	0.05	35.75	ditto.		
		Jamuna	5.80	0.50	29.27	ditto.		
		Kaprahal	3.90	0.70	18.20	ditto.		
		Pakour	1.10	1.78	22.82	ditto.		
	Gouda	Nya Dooka	1.12	2.60	41.20	ditto.		
		Gouda	4.70	0.70	25.75	ditto.		
ORISSA.								
CUTTACK.	Cuttack	Cuttack (Telegraph Office)	1.20	0.30	27.50	ditto.		
		Cuttack (Hospital)	1.22	0.02	27.42	ditto.		
		Jajpur	3.00	Nil.	21.01	ditto.		
		Konark	2.50	4.00	10.29	ditto.		
	Pooree	Jagatsinghpore	1.54	0.38	27.76	ditto.		
		Esse Point	1.15	0.55	20.79	ditto.		
		Pooree	2.54	1.20	28.38	ditto.		
		Kharish	1.78	1.80	34.20	ditto.		
	Bahar	Bahar	2.71	0.81	31.71	ditto.		
		Wardha	1.58	0.22	27.20	ditto.		
CHOTA NAGPORE.	Bahar	Jalgaon	0.53	0.53	37.10	ditto.		
		Sorah	3.31	0.79	25.71	ditto.		
		Chandhally	1.71	2.58	22.25	ditto.		
		Cuttack Tributary	Nil rec.	Nil rec.	30.20	2nd August.		
	SOUTH-WESTERN FRONTIER AGENCY.	Sambalpur	Nil rec.	Nil rec.	30.20	2nd August.		
		Hazarechaugh	3.12	0.05	45.01	2nd August.		
		Hazarechaugh (Jail)	3.05	0.05	40.09	ditto.		
		Hazarechaugh (Dispensary)	7.78	0.50	41.25	ditto.		
	Loharduggah	Bancho	2.19	1.76	31.91	ditto.		
		Palasur	1.85	3.11	32.23	ditto.		
Chyerasa		2.21	1.27	31.10	ditto.			
Pardola		6.91	0.18	36.48	ditto.			
ASSAM & ADJACENT HILLS.	Assam	Gohindpore	3.88	0.08	38.37	ditto.		
		Goalpara	0.78	4.15	66.29	ditto.		
		Dibrugarh	0.20	3.90	82.37	ditto.		
		Gowhaty	1.10	0.01	19.85	ditto.		
	Kamroop	Burpottah	1.70	5.31	63.03	ditto.		
		Tezpur	1.75	0.75	66.86	ditto.		
		Murghidye	0.62	Not rec.	10.79	16th August.		
		Nowzong	3.12	1.01	61.62	23rd August.		
	Sachangor	Rechsangor	0.65	Not rec.	58.14	16th August.		
		Golachuk	0.51	ditto.	58.39	ditto.		
Jurehant		3.23	0.10	61.12	ditto.			
Nazareth		7.11	ditto.	62.57	ditto.			
LUCKIMPORE.	Luckimpore	Dibrooghar	4.96	ditto.	72.30	ditto.		
		North Luckimpore	0.77	ditto.	74.43	ditto.		
		Siddya	0.50	ditto.	63.31	ditto.		
		Samocooding	Nil rec.	ditto.	52.58	2nd August.		
	Khasi and Jyntia Hills.	Shillong	1.38	ditto.	30.65	16th August.		
		Jowai	0.22	ditto.	61.97	ditto.		
		Cherrapunjee	2.14	ditto.	27.50	ditto.		
		Tura	0.47	4.45	74.15	18th August.		
	Garo Hills.	Garo Hills	Benares	4.92	Nil rec.	28.71	16th August.	
			Alyat	0.20	4.00	155.50	23rd August.	

CALCUTTA,
The 30th August 1873.

H. F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Meteorological Telegraphic Report for the period 24th to 30th August 1873.

STATIONS.	Date.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	Barometer reduced to sea level.	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat.	Wind.		Rain.	Clouds.	Weather.
					Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.			
CALCUTTA.	Aug. 24th	10	29.605	29.711	84.5	82.9	75	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.678	29.540	84.0	83.3	74	N E	—	—	—	—	C, R
	25th	10	29.684	29.702	84.0	83.5	74	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.683	29.581	84.0	83.3	74	N E	—	—	—	—	—
	26th	10	29.711	29.720	84.1	83.0	81	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.690	29.578	84.1	83.0	76	N E	—	—	0.14	—	—
	27th	10	29.649	29.667	84.1	82.1	79	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.546	29.664	84.0	83.3	78	N E	—	—	—	—	—
	28th	10	29.596	29.611	84.0	82.0	81	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.179	29.497	84.0	83.0	87	N E	—	—	0.12	—	—
	29th	10	29.544	29.551	84.2	82.8	85	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.426	29.114	84.1	82.0	78	N S E	—	—	0.16	—	—
RAYON ISLAND.	Aug. 24th	10	29.690	29.702	87	82	79	N W	—	—	—	—
	16	29.675	29.781	87	80	69	N E	—	1.6	—	—	—
	25th	10	29.681	29.687	87	81	73	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.679	29.585	86	81	76	N E	—	—	—	—	—
	26th	10	29.694	29.690	86	81	76	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.574	29.580	85	81	76	N E	—	—	—	—	—
	27th	10	29.643	29.640	88	82	83	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.546	29.552	88	81	71	N E	—	—	—	—	—
	28th	10	29.570	29.585	82	81	85	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.461	29.187	87	81	76	N E	—	—	—	—	—
	29th	10	29.603	29.100	85	82	87	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.305	29.101	84	83	86	N S E	—	—	—	—	—
CHITTAGONG.	Aug. 24th	10	29.630	29.750	86	80	75	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.526	29.617	85	80	69	N W	—	—	—	—	—
	25th	10	29.615	29.700	84	81	72	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.198	29.750	84	81	73	N E	—	—	—	—	—
	26th	10	29.673	29.765	85	79	75	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.541	29.602	86	81	69	N E	—	—	—	—	—
	27th	10	29.648	29.710	81	80	83	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.501	29.593	81	80	79	N E	—	—	—	—	—
	28th	10	29.613	29.705	81	79	79	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.522	29.611	81	80	85	N E	—	—	—	—	—
	29th	10	29.621	29.713	81	79	72	N S E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.534	29.600	83	80	87	N S W	—	—	—	—	—
MADRAS.	Aug. 24th	10	29.657	29.717	87	80	72	N	—	—	—	—
	16	29.589	29.631	85	80	70	N	—	—	—	—	—
	25th	10	29.723	29.752	85	77	68	N by S	—	—	—	—
	16	29.615	29.615	81	78	75	N E	—	—	—	—	—
	26th	10	29.712	29.742	88	78	62	N by S	—	—	—	—
	16	29.598	29.598	93	79	47	N by S	—	—	—	—	—
	27th	10	29.729	29.750	83	76	71	N	—	—	—	—
	16	29.624	29.651	87	77	61	N W by W	—	—	—	—	—
	28th	10	29.741	29.773	85	71	57	N	—	—	—	—
	16	29.621	29.651	89	75	57	N W by W	—	—	—	—	—
	29th	10	29.732	29.782	88	71	57	N S W	—	—	—	—
	16	29.622	29.652	90	76	50	N W by W	—	—	—	—	—
COVATTA.	Aug. 24th	10	29.751	29.781	89	75	49	N	—	—	—	—
	16	29.643	29.693	88	76	61	N W by W	—	—	—	—	—
	25th	10	29.754	29.814	88	76	65	N by S	—	—	—	—
	16	29.657	29.687	94	75	58	N	—	—	—	—	—
	26th	10	29.621	29.703	89	80	66	N	—	—	—	—
	16	29.487	29.570	82	78	82	N E	—	—	—	—	—
	27th	10	29.585	29.661	81	80	93	N S E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.485	29.567	84	80	88	N S E	—	—	—	—	—
	28th	10	29.576	29.668	86	81	79	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.455	29.567	86	81	79	N E	—	—	—	—	—
	29th	10	29.510	29.602	84	81	87	N S E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.437	29.519	85	81	83	N E	—	—	—	—	—
ARUN.	Aug. 24th	10	29.460	29.512	85	81	83	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.353	29.470	82	80	91	N E	—	—	—	—	—
	25th	10	29.433	29.515	86	80	70	N	—	—	—	—
	16	29.342	29.424	88	81	72	N	—	—	—	—	—
	26th	10	29.505	29.587	87	80	72	N S W	—	—	—	—
	16	29.377	29.458	89	81	66	N W	—	—	—	—	—
	27th	10	29.702	29.723	86	80	75	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.597	29.618	87	80	72	N	—	—	—	—	—
	28th	10	29.670	29.709	88	81	80	N E	—	—	—	—
	16	29.587	29.608	84	82	91	N S W	—	—	—	—	—
	29th	10	29.749	29.780	85	80	79	N	—	—	—	—
	16	29.607	29.610	86	75	78	N	—	—	—	—	—

* Velocity of wind in miles per hour.

CALCUTTA.
The 30th August 1873.H. E. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office,
Calcutta, from 22nd to 31st August 1873.

Month	Date.	Mean baromet. at sea level.	THERMOMETER.				Mean wet bulb.	Computed mean dew.	Mean degree of humidity.	WIND.			Rain.	Moon's phase.	GENERAL REMARKS.
			Highest in shade.	Lowest reading.	Max. surface temp. in shade.	Min. dry bulb.				Prevailing direction.	Force, pressure.	Velocity.			
	Inches.										Miles.	In.			
Aug.	22nd	29.84	91.5	83.0	115.2	80.0	82.1	79.1	981	S by E & S by W	...	...	...	☉	Clear and cumuli.
	23rd	29.66	88.3	81.4	111.5	83.8	81.0	79.0	980	S by E & E S E	...	100.0	0.01	☉	Cumuli and stratus. Thunder at 2½ p.m. Light rain 12½ p.m. 3 & 4½ p.m.
	24th	29.42	90.0	81.5	110.0	85.3	81.3	79.0	982	E S E & N E	...	70.0	...	☉	Cirrocumuli and cumuli. Lightning from 7 to 11 p.m.
	25th	29.20	92.3	82.2	112.0	80.1	81.0	79.6	980	E S E & S W	...	101.1	0.14	☉	Clear, cumuli & cirri. Lightning at midnight and 1 a.m. slight rain at 3 & 7½ p.m.
	26th	29.30	90.0	82.5	114.0	83.5	81.9	79.4	983	S W & E by S	...	86.3	0.01	☉	Clear, stratus & cumuli. Light rain at 1½ and 2½ p.m.
	27th	29.31	91.8	81.5	111.5	85.7	81.9	79.2	981	S E, E & S by E	...	147.4	...	☉	Clear, cirri and cumuli. Lightning on W at 7½ p.m. Thunder & Drizzle between 5 & 8 p.m.
	28th	29.15	89.0	80.0	113.2	83.2	80.7	78.9	987	E by S & E	13	172.8	0.11	☉	Chiefly stratus. Slight rain from 1½ to 3 at 4 & 8½ p.m.
	29th	28.9	87.6	79.5	112.0	82.7	80.5	79.1	989	E & S E	60	222.0	0.70	☉	Chiefly overcast. Break wind from 2½ to 6 p.m. Thunder between 11 & 12 a.m. Lightning on W at 11 p.m. Slight rain after intervals.
	30th	29.37	87.6	80.2	113.3	83.0	81.3	79.0	990	S W & S S W	...	249.2	0.16	☉	Overcast and stratus. Lightning midnight to 4 a.m. slight rain at 1½, 3, 12, 8 a.m., 1 & 4½ p.m.
	31st	29.70	90.6	81.0	113.0	84.4	81.8	80.0	987	S S W & S S E	12	107.6	0.18	☉	Clear, cumuli and cirri. Thunder at 1 p.m. Lightning from 1 to 2 a.m. Slight rain between 1 and 2 and 5 & 6 p.m.

The mean barometer, as likewise the dry and wet bulb thermometer means, are derived from the twenty-four hourly observations made during the day.

The dew-point is computed with the Greenwich constants. The figures in column 10 represent the humidity of the air, the complete saturation of which being taken at unity. The receiver of the lower rain gauge is 1½ feet, and that of the anemometer 70 feet 10 inches above the level of the ground. The velocity of wind, as indicated by Robinson's anemometer, is registered from noon to noon.

The extreme variation of temperature during the past ten days		...	12.8
The max. temperature during the past ten days		...	92.3
The max. temperature during the corresponding period of the past year		...	92.0
The mean humidity during the past ten days		...	0.86
The mean humidity during the corresponding period of the past year		...	0.87
			Inches.
The total fall of rain from 22nd to 31st		{ by lower rain gauge	2.11
		{ by anemometer gauge	1.98
Ditto	ditto	ditto, average of nineteen previous years	8.58
Ditto	ditto between the 1st January and the 31st August		86.00
Ditto	ditto	ditto, average of nineteen previous years	51.68

GOPFENAUH SEN,
In charge of the Observatory.

The 1st September 1873.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, IRRIGATION BRANCH, BENGAL.

ORISSA CIRCLE.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Brahmines Division, High Level Canal, for the month of July 1873.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—37 Miles.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.										STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.										ABSTRACT.				
No. of boats.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate weight of cargo.	Approximate value of cargo.	Tonnage exclusive of empty boats.		Tollage.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate weight of cargo.	Approximate value of cargo.	Tonnage exclusive of empty boats.		Tollage.	Nature of cargo.	Weight of cargo.	Mds.	Rs.	Tonnage exclusive of empty boats.	Tollage.	Rs. A. P.					
				Mds.	Maunds.					Mds.	Maunds.													
0	Straw	879	275	1319	473	280	2	Fuel	1874	107	6299	180 1/2	25 10 0	45	Local traffic	1403	3407	108 1/2	28 2 10					
4	Timber	314	1670	471	1023	360 1/2	4	Iron rail	1332	80 1/2	1008	2133 1/2	23 10 0	2	Irrigation works	8533	7000	443 1/2	119 8 0					
1	Lime	98	656	423	1023	81 1/2	1	Chalk	400	80	2343	2680 1/2	35 10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Gravel, &c.	131	13	19	7 1/2	81 1/2	1	Machine, &c.	200	90	80	73 1/2	9 10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Provisions	18	90	27	3 1/2	32 1/2	6	Shunts	200	90	80	13 1/2	1 14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Furniture	40	40	80	2 1/2	73 1/2	5	Empty	...	...	1515	1283 1/2	18 2 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	Sendee	116	377	174	6 1/2	53 1/2	1	Passenger	...	...	...	...	1 10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	Timber, &c.	94	370	141	5 1/2	171 1/2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18	Empty	...	...	615	9 1/2	298 1/2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Passengers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45		1633	3497	3063	10 1/2	1463 1/2	20		5558	70 0	12430	443 1/2	112 8 0	63		7191	11007	863 1/2	147 10 10					
July 1873																								
53		3207	6800-12	6104	19 1/2	4083 1/2	28		90	10	3393	131 1/2	40 4 1	76		3317	6970	314 1/2	93 0 5					

In the corresponding month of last year Rs. 23 was received in tollage for carriage of cotton, which article does not appear in this month and accounts for the falling off in receipt of private trade. The traffic in the canal has this month been exceedingly light, due in some measure to the extraordinary increase during last month.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, IRRIGATION BRANCH, BENGAL.

ORISSA CIRCLE.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Talámdak Canal for the month of July 1873.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—27½ MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.										STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.										ABSTRACT.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
Number of boats.	APPROXIMATE		TONNAGE, EXCLUSIVE OF EMPTY BOATS.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	APPROXIMATE		TONNAGE, EXCLUSIVE OF EMPTY BOATS.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Weight of cargo.	Value of traffic.	Tonnage, exclusive of empty boats.	Tollage.	REMARKS.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.					Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
4	Paddy	...	600	1,765	63	159	4 6 8	2	Fuel	75	2,033	243	74	5 3 9	19	...	149	Rs. A. P.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
2	Fuel	...	45	680	24	42	1 11 3	3	Empty	654	34	34	2 6 3	5	...	75	108</

During July 1872, Rs. 0-4-1.

There has been a considerable increase in the local and irrigation traffic, compared with that of the same month of last year.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, IRRIGATION BRANCH, BENGAL.

SOUTH-WESTERN CIRCLE.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Hidgelee Tidal Canal for the month of July 1873.
LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—4 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.										ABSTRACT.						REMARKS.
Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	APPROXIMATE		TONNAGE, EXCLUSIVE OF EMPTY BOATS.		Tollage.	Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Weight of cargo.	Value of traffic.	Tonnage, exclusive of empty boats.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Amount of corresponding month in previous year.		
		Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Mandus.	Tons.									Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
4	Jacks	No. 1,200	148	30 5	...	1 13 8	58	Local traffic	1,435	9,730 0 0	176 1	705	33 1 0	1,821 9 3	The decrease is owing to the canal being closed for the salt excavation. The tolls realized have been from the portions of Range No. I and II.	
1	Beans	" 7	40	75	...	0 6 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	Pottery	" 6,000	90	315	...	1 14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	Earthen jugs	" 80	72	75	...	0 6 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	Water	"	...	460	...	2 4 0 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	Empty	"	...	...	...	7 3 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	Passenger	" 8	...	125	...	0 15 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	Tobacco	Mds.	4,150	1,175	...	6 11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Salt	"	225	940	...	2 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Spices	"	3,600	700	...	3 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	Grains	"	100	400	...	0 12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Paddy	"	280	515	...	3 3 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Fishes	"	145	405	...	2 8 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
66			1,435	9,730	4,935	176 1	58		1,435	9,730 0 0	176 1	705	33 1 0	...		

N. B.—The Tonnage shown above is of the boats not of the cargo.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, IRRIGATION BRANCH, BENGAL.

SOUTH-WESTERN CIRCLE.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Midnapore Section of the High Level Canal for the month of July 1873.
LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—24 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.										ABSTRACT.				
Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	APPROXIMATE		TONNAGE, EXCLUSIVE OF EMPTY BOATS.		Tollage.	Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Weight of cargo.	Value of traffic.	Tonnage, exclusive of empty boats.	Tollage.	Remarks.	
		Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Maunds.	Tons.									
62	Coal	24,548	8,555	44,775	...	Rs. A. P.	172 8 6	Local traffic.	...	Rs.	1,11,303	2,441 9 6	Range III Canal re-opened on the 7th. The largest amount collected on the canal in one month. The toll collections for same month of last year were Rs. 1,090-1-7. The increase over last year is almost entirely due to empty and passenger boats which have been exactly doubled.	
34	Cotton	3,025	27,650	7,580	...	...	42 0 0	Irrigation Works	...	...	...	...
6	Firewood	885	235	1,770	...	...	6 0 0	...	...	...	...	...
33	Grain	3,516	8,385	8,385	...	...	41 11 6	...	...	...	...	...
8	Hides and horns	672	137-0	1-5	...	...	72 12 6	...	...	...	...	...
53	Jaggery and sugar	4,470	18,935	11,825	...	...	43 7 6	...	...	...	...	...
31	Metal	2,019	13,030	10,575	...	...	42 12 4	...	...	...	...	...
189	Miscellaneous	8,350	30,155	32,575	...	...	164 11 0	...	...	...	...	...
61	Oil and oil-seeds	8,015	2,582	15,250	...	...	71 12 6	...	...	...	...	...
116	Paddy and rice	14,250	23-7	31-175	...	...	131 3 0	...	...	...	...	...
50	Piece-goods	1,018	92,732	9,300	...	...	40 2 6	...	...	...	...	...
40	Thread	1,935	55,700	10,525	...	...	40 12 4	...	...	...	...	...
98	Garden produce	6,375	9,800	13,100	...	...	64 10 0	...	...	...	...	...
13	Portery	163	103	2,500	...	...	0 0 0	...	...	...	...	...
75	Salt	19,015	92,800	42,500	...	...	251 4 7	...	...	...	...	...
21	Silk and indigo	671	1,18,208	1,175	...	...	17 10 6	...	...	...	...	...
1	Jobs	50	150	151	...	...	0 0 0	...	...	...	...	...
11	Straw	1,222	175	1,301	...	...	18 3 0	...	...	...	...	...
30	Tobacco	3,703	20,500	9,650	...	...	51 8 0	...	...	...	...	...
3	Tiles	600	1-5	1-25	...	...	4 8 8	...	...	...	...	...
5	Sand	750	76	2,125	...	...	7 15 6	...	...	...	...	...
4	Raft of timber	...	806	1-7 10	...	...	3 4 0	...	...	...	...	...
1	Rafts of bamboo	...	60	60	...	...	1 3 0	...	...	...	...	...
868	Empty boats	...	...	(41,550)	...	...	279 1 0	...	...	...	...	...
1389	Passengers	...	...	38-18-3	...	...	20-12-0	...	...	...	...	...
...	Miscellaneous revenue	...	...	(104,050)	...	...	716 7 0	...	...	...	...	...
7	Police boats	...	...	...	...	...	8 5 9	...	...	...	...	...
2064		107,717	7,02,201	25,575	8,193	114,303	2,441 9 6		107,717	7,02,201	8,193	114,303		

The 20th August 1873.

H. W. GULLIVER, *Insul.-Col., P. W.*
Offg. Joint-Secretary to the Government of Bengal
in the P. W. Dept., Irrigation Branch.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—MAIN LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 16th August 1873, on 1,26½ miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.			MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.			Total traffic receipts.
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.		
		Rs. A. P.	£. s. d.	Mds. Strs.	Rs. A. P.	£. s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	90,590	1,06,498 2 4	9,328 11 1	3,49,084 20	1,09,253 1 3	16,420 0 0	24,999 1 1
Or per mile of railway	718	84 10 2	7 0 8	2764	86 11 3	12 0 11	10 10 7
For previous 6 weeks of half-year	5,30,100	7,13,409 1 3	65,004 1 8	20,14,198 0	13,17,502 14 5	1,20,708 5 5	185,168 6 11
Total for 7 weeks	6,20,770	8,17,902 0 0	71,082 12 0	23,63,282 20	14,36,580 15 0	1,26,178 15 3	2,11,161 7 6
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	62,608	1,08,921 13 4	9,394 10 0	320,627 30	1,04,369 15 10	16,880 13 4	26,864 3 4
Per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year	501	88 1 0	7 16 0	2500	84 0 0	13 4 1	10 0 1
Total to corresponding date of previous year	6,47,130	7,64,615 8 3	69,118 1 0	20,76,454 10	13,30,354 12 4	1,40,270 7 1	2,00,363 11 10

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—JUBBULPORE LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 10th August 1873, on 223½ miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Strs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	3,912	6,009 5 0	524 9 7	38,463 20	8,232 11 0	751 15 5	1,376 1 10
Or per mile of railway	17	27 7 5	2 15 10	172	37 11 3	3 7 4	6 5 2
For previous 6 weeks of half-year	22,794	50,066 1 0	4,581 4 1	1,83,394 00	56,627 2 6	5,190 3 8	9,770 7 9
Total for 7 weeks	26,706	56,075 4 0	5,105 7 8	1,91,857 0	64,859 13 6	5,942 1 11	11,146 9 7
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	3,676	8,300 7 5	701 14 0	30,135 0	8,514 5 5	780 0 7	1,642 5 7
Per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year	16	22 2 10	3 8 5	132	23 1 7	3 0 10	7 15 6
Total to corresponding date of previous year	27,471	60,360 2 8	5,695 0 4	2,06,829 0	63,465 11 1	5,968 11 9	10,418 0 1

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 16th August 1873, on 166½ miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Strs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	25,378	14,542 0 3	1,231 1 4	149,876 19	40,000 6 5	3,767 7 2	6,000 8 6
Or per mile of railway	152	87 14 10	7 10 4	896	241 14 7	22 0 2	35 10 6
For previous 6 weeks of half-year	1,82,020	1,13,607 14 3	10,513 19 4	6,25,991 3	1,25,247 10 0	12,367 14 0	22,911 13 4
Total for 7 weeks	2,07,402	1,28,249 7 0	11,747 0 8	6,40,870 27	1,70,257 16 11	14,734 1 2	28,922 1 10
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	26,008	14,546 10 1	1,231 8 0	1,55,514 30	43,500 11 2	3,900 2 3	5,330 11 0
Per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year	157	87 16 2	7 10 8	934	275 8 11	23 10 8	34 1 1
Total to corresponding date of previous year	1,97,404	1,04,077 10 10	9,007 2 11	6,66,717 56	2,38,050 12 11	21,801 3 2	31,238 5 0

NULHATEE STATE RAILWAY.

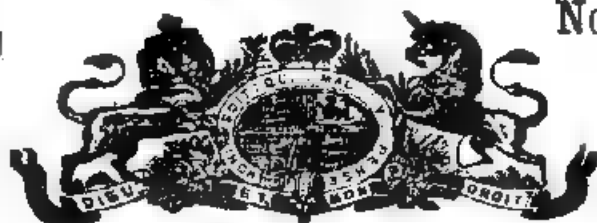
Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 23rd August 1873, on 27½ miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Strs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	1,1644	352 0 0	29 5 0	3,800 0	301 0 0	25 2 0	120 0 0
Or per mile of railway	42	12 8 0	1 0 0	137	11 0 0	1 0 0	4 14 0
For previous 7 weeks of half-year	8,8814	7,151 0 0	715 2 0	20,024 0	1,910 0 0	191 13 6	807 0 0
Total for 8 weeks	9,9958	7,503 0 0	744 7 0	23,824 0	2,210 0 0	216 13 6	1,007 0 0
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	1,1644	352 0 0	29 5 0	3,800 0	301 0 0	25 2 0	120 0 0
Or per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year	42	12 8 0	1 0 0	137	11 0 0	1 0 0	4 14 0
Total to corresponding date of previous year	8,8814	7,151 0 0	715 2 0	20,024 0	1,910 0 0	191 13 6	807 0 0

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH-EASTERN STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 23d August 1873, on 28 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.				MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.				Total traffic receipts.
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.				
		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.		Mds. Nos.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.		
Total traffic for the week ...	4,222	868 0 0	89 18 0	10,728 0	340 0 0	34 18 0	121 18 0		
Or per mile of railway ...	151	20 0 0	2 10 0	383 6	12 8 0	1 5 0	3 15 0		
For previous 7 weeks of half-year ...	28,245	5,984 0 0	568 8 0	128,760 0	3,912 0 0	390 1 0	858 12 0		
Total for 8 weeks ...	33,467	6,732 0 0	673 4 0	139,527 0	4,200 0 0	426 2 0	939 1 0		
COMPARISONS.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	3,771	646 2 3	64 12 3	10,116 33	303 2 9	30 18 4	94 5 7		
Per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year ...	135	23 1 3	2 6 2	361 13	11 0 1	1 2 0	3 5 2		
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	31,664	5,644 2 0	556 0 1	146,928 7	3,183 0 1	316 0 0	826 15 1		



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1873.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

Saturday, the 6th September 1873.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *presiding*.
 The Hon'ble G. C. PAUL, *Acting Advocate-General*.
 The Hon'ble V. H. SCHALCH,
 The Hon'ble LORD ULICK BROWNE,
 The Hon'ble C. E. BERNARD,
 The Hon'ble MOULVIE ABDOL LUTEEF, KHAN BAHADOOR,
 The Hon'ble T. M. ROBINSON,
 The Hon'ble RAJAH JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE, BAHADOOR,
 AND
 The Hon'ble BAROD DEGUMBER MITTER.

EMIGRATION TO THE LABOR DISTRICTS.

THE ACTING ADVOCATE GENERAL said he had the honor to present to the Council two reports of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the law relating to the emigration of laborers to the districts of Assam, Cachar, and Sylhet, and to regulate contract labor and service. The first report related

to the Bill generally; the other was on a matter which subsequently came before the committee, as to which they had thought it necessary to make a special report.

In presenting the first preliminary report of the committee he took occasion to say a few words on the general features and characteristics of the Bill. The principles then enunciated had been carried out by the committee; and the labors of the committee had been principally directed to the careful revision of the language of the Bill. The matter had been carefully summarised in the report; and he did not, therefore, deem it necessary to say much on the subject. He considered that the report spoke fully for itself as to what had been done. There were only one or two matters to which he wished to direct attention.

The committee had altered the definition of "Magistrate." The word, as it stood in the Bill, included "a magistrate of a district or division of a district, and any magistrate of the first or second class, and any magistrate deputed by the magistrate of the district for the control of emigration or laborers, and any magistrate of police for the town of Calcutta." The Subordinate Magistrate who was capable of being appointed by the magistrate had very limited powers and functions; and we thought it therefore necessary to strike out from the definition the words "and any magistrate deputed by the magistrate of the district for the control of emigration or laborers."

The powers given to a magistrate deputed by the magistrate of the district were expressly defined in the Bill.

Then the committee said—"We have omitted the provisions relating to evidence in Sections 28, 62, 63, 66, 106 and 133, and the references to the Penal Code in Sections 13, 103, 108 and 132." THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL would draw attention to this as one of great importance, and one which the Council should take into consideration when settling the clauses of the Bill. He might mention that one of these sections, Section 28, provided that an extract of every such contract should be entered in a register to be kept by the magistrate, and a certified copy of such entry, or of the contract should be forwarded to the Superintendent of Emigration, by whom it should be forwarded, after entry in his own register, to the magistrate of the labor district within which the emigrant contracts to labor. "Such certified copy of the entry or of the contract so forwarded shall be admissible in any court as evidence of the contents of the contract." The committee had been obliged to strike out this form of evidence, inasmuch as this Council had no power to define what should be evidence, or to add to or alter the rules of evidence. This Bill having repealed the existing emigration law, the Council had taken away from itself any power to provide that an entry or any special form of evidence should be evidence in a particular proceeding. The result was that every contract which might become the subject of controversy between laborer and employer would have to be proved in the ordinary way, namely, by the proof and production of the original, or in the absence of the original, by the proof or production of a copy. If it should be necessary to preserve this short form of proof, the present Act would have to be repealed with the exception of the particular portion which provides for the reception of this kind of evidence. If it should be deemed advisable to have a special form of evidence as a part of the law relating to emigration, we would have to repeal the former Act, excepting from the repeal the portions relating to evidence, inasmuch as the evidence Act had preserved all matters of evidence in reference to special and local Acts.

In the same way references to the Penal Code had been struck out, this Council having no power to add to or alter any of the provisions of the Code. For instance, in regard to section 13, if a person was a public servant within the terms of the Penal Code well and goods; if not, this Council had no power to make him one.

There was one other matter to which THE ADVOCATE GENERAL thought it necessary to refer—he alluded to the part of the report which was as follows: "we have slightly altered the constitution of the Labor Transport Fund to meet the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, Section 308," whereby the Procedure Code enabled a Magistrate to award a portion of the fine to

a complainant. The Bill as it stood devoted the whole of the fine to a particular purpose. We had made that provision subject to section 308 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

He did not think it necessary to refer to this report further than to say, that the committee had introduced certain forms in the Schedule which they trusted would be considered satisfactory. A form of contract was provided in Schedule A, and the Council would see that it was a very short and simple form of contract—quite sufficient, he thought, for the purposes of the Act. The form of contract hitherto in use comprised within it all the principal provisions of the law itself. The relative positions of employer and employed were defined in the Bill, and the introduction of such provisions into the contract did not make them more binding. They had, therefore, adopted this form of contract. It might be a question whether, under the instructions of Government, the Magistrate should not be directed to explain the general provisions and features of the Act to the emigrants before the signing of the contract. That, however, was a matter which the Executive Government would be able to govern and direct without the authority of the Legislature.

With regard to the supplementary report, the Council would observe that the committee were of opinion that the systems of free recruiting and recruiting under the Act could not well work side by side. The committee did not feel themselves able, on the materials before them, to recommend that Cachar or any other district, should be exempted from the operation of the Act, or to make any specific recommendation to the Council on the general subject. He had carefully read the whole of the opinions received, and beyond the letter of the President, respecting the state of the Chandypore gardens, he had not met with any specific evidence. If the facts stated in that letter referring to Chandypore gardens could be extended by evidence to other estates, or if the evidence tended to show that the state of things at Chandypore existed in other localities, then the committee would have had sufficient material to make a specific recommendation; and if they had had such information they would have been inclined to make a recommendation. But as the matter stood they had not had such evidence. No doubt a number of most valuable opinions had been received, but those who undertook the task of legislation were bound to form their own opinion, on good and sufficient evidence, and to have a firm groundwork as the basis of a sound and important measure. The committee had had several meetings on the subject, and had devoted considerable time and attention to it, and the result was that they found themselves unable to make any specific recommendation.

On the other hand, the Council would observe that, if they should now be disposed to order a further inquiry specifically on the subject, the committee would be perfectly ready to take into their consideration the results of such further inquiry. With regard to the opinions which had been received, the ADVOCATE-GENERAL would make this observation, that the opinions were generally to the following effect—that free recruiting was approved subject to the provisions regulating the due performance of contracts being preserved. No doubt if free recruiting were allowed subject to the condition that the portion of the law relating to specific performance of contracts should be preserved, such an arrangement would suit the employers very well. But he ventured to think that this Council would not accept the above recommendation, on the subject of recruiting, so fettered and encumbered.

On the other hand, with regard to the laborers employed, their view was wholly unrepresented. Whether it was capable of being represented he did not know, but he thought it was worth an attempt to get, as far as possible, the opinion of the laboring classes by means of inquiries instituted under the direction of Government by the Magistrates or other Government officials, or by means of a commission of investigation and enquiry.

When all these matters were put before the Council, they would be in a position to say whether or not they would exempt Cachar from the operation of the Act. THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL would protect the poor native in every possible way, and he thought that the provisions of the existing law afforded the laborer every necessary protection. But then it was said that if the

time had arrived when the parties could deal with each other without any restrictive provisions, it was the duty of the Government to remove such provisions, and that the freedom which was to be enjoyed under the new state of things was highly desirable. He must confess that the partial restraint of freedom did not weigh very heavily with him when he found that such restraint was more than counterbalanced by positive advantages in respect of health, wages, and other matters contributing to the welfare of the employed. All persons who were bound to others in the capacity of servants had to submit to considerable restraint of their own actions and inclinations, for several hours of the day.

On the whole he considered that the provisions of the law relating to emigration sustained a fair equilibrium between employer and employed.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said the motion of which there was notice was that the report of the Select Committee be taken into consideration in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill in the form recommended by the Select Committee.

THE ACTING ADVOCATE-GENERAL observed that the motion as it stood in the list of business, came from HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT, and had been inserted in the paper by the routine of the office. He did not think the Council were now in a position to consider the clauses of the Bill; the report of the Chamber of Commerce, for instance, had only lately been received, and had not been considered by the Select Committee.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said he thought it desirable that the Bill should be taken into consideration in the form recommended by the committee, merely to give them a starting point for further proceedings, and he would, therefore, move that it be so considered.

In doing this, he would take the opportunity to explain the course which the Government proposed to take with respect to this Bill. The Council were probably aware—those who read the newspapers must be aware—that it was rumoured, he could not say whether truly or not, that there was on the anvil a plan for separating from Bengal and attaching more closely to the Government of India the districts for which this Bill more particularly provided as a labor districts. The Council were also aware that there was before the Legislative Council of the Governor-General, a Bill somewhat cognate with this Bill—he alluded to the Bill to promote emigration to British Borneo. That being the state of the case, and he also being not aware whether the separation of those districts to the east of the Brahmapootra would or would not take place, the Government would not think it right that this Bill should be forced through the Council without communication with the Government of India. On the other hand, if in this Council, with the general consent of all parties, a good Bill of this kind could be settled and passed, a great advantage would be gained; because even if these districts were relieved from the control of this Council, on the other hand, the recruiting grounds would still remain subject to the jurisdiction of the Council. That being so, if the labor districts were separated from the recruiting districts before this Bill was passed, considerable difficulties might arise, and it would in many respects be a great advantage if, before any separation of this kind should take place, these questions should be settled amicably and as much as possible with general consent.

In HIS HONOR'S view, it was the greatest possible object to promote emigration from the thickly populated—it might be over-populated—districts of Western Bengal to the thinly populated Eastern districts. What was wanted to render the Eastern districts productive, and a source of prosperity to the people and the nation, was population. He was inclined to believe that the districts of Western Bengal, if not over-populated, were on the verge of being over-populated; and in the interests of all parties it was advisable that facilities for transport should be given, every means in the power of the Government being used to promote that end. He wished to promote emigration as much as possible; he wished to promote free and voluntary emigration as far as might be; and as emigration could not be altogether spontaneous, he believed all interested in tea plantations and the welfare and prosperity of the Eastern districts, would agree, that above all things the great thing wanted was cheap recruiting,

cheap transport, cheap means of providing a population in those labor districts. The Government would do all it could to promote that object. He should shortly lay before the Council, by means of the *Gazette*, the measures he was about to take in order to improve roads and facilitate traffic from the East to the West. It lay on the Council to do what it could to facilitate that traffic—which we all agreed to be a good thing—by good laws. The Committee of which the learned ADVOCATE-GENERAL was the head, having taken charge of the Bill, had elaborated it in a manner and with an ability which had resulted in very great good. They had done great service; they had much improved the Bill; and so far as their labors had achieved, we accepted those labors, and took the Bill into consideration in the improved form in which they had presented it.

He did not think it now necessary to refer to particular points in which the Committee had somewhat altered the Bill. He must say, however, that he was a little startled at one view of the law which the learned ADVOCATE-GENERAL had enunciated. He was not prepared to find that the provisions of the general law of evidence and of the general law for the punishment of crime, debarred us from passing any local law on the subject. His impression was that while we could not alter any general law passed by the Legislative Council of the Governor-General, we had not been debarred from adding to that law particular local laws of our own. The learned ADVOCATE-GENERAL was a better judge on such a point than His HONOR was, and he must suppose the state of things in this matter to be as the ADVOCATE-GENERAL had explained it to us; but still he must hope that the ingenuity for which the ADVOCATE-GENERAL was so remarkable, would get us out of that great difficulty.

Then, not dwelling on the minor and general amendments made in the Bill by the Committee, His HONOR came to the particular amendment which he did himself the honor to suggest to the Committee, but which, so far, the Committee had not thought proper to adopt. The Committee had told us that in one point they were unanimous—that the system of free recruiting was incompatible with recruiting under the Act; that the two systems could not work side by side. Then as to the question whether Cachar and Sylhet were fitted for free recruiting, they said they were not yet in possession of sufficient evidence to enable them to make any recommendation. Now, he should like to explain that his own suggestion was not that the planters should be left wholly without protection and remedy if once free recruiting were allowed. Under the system of free recruiting, capitalists, planters, those who engaged labor, would have the protection of the ordinary civil law of contract. In the particular case of laborers transported from distant districts, the employers of laborers had also special protection in the shape of the Penal Code, which protected persons in cases where they expended money in importing their laborers. Section 402 of the Penal Code did establish a penal provision by which these contracts can be enforced. When we had a law of that kind, the general civil law and this particular penal law, contracts not very onerous and not of very long duration would be sufficiently protected. His HONOR's view was that if you can make recruiting cheap, and make transport cheap, these contracts need not be so onerous and so long as to risk their not being sufficiently protected by the ordinary civil law and the ordinary penal law.

The learned ADVOCATE-GENERAL had said that under any contract there must be a certain restraint of freedom. But on the other hand, it seemed to His HONOR, that the position of the coolie whilst his contract lasted, was not a position of limited freedom such as that which the ADVOCATE-GENERAL described, but it was a position of very complete absence of freedom. He was not only obliged to labor for a definite time, but he was removed from the position of an ordinary freeman under the law. If he deserted, his master was not obliged to resort to the ordinary process for his remedy, but by the aid of his guards he could seize the coolie and forcibly bring him back. His HONOR must say that this system involved more loss of freedom to the coolie than was experienced by a person under the ordinary law of contract. It did make him for the time a slave.

Well then, coming to the particular question upon which the Committee were unanimously agreed, namely that it was not possible that the two

systems—the system of recruiting under the Act, and the system of free recruiting—should go on together, he felt bound very much to defer to the opinion of the Committee. At the same time, unanimous though the Committee were, there were very considerable authorities on the other side. He had mentioned that at this time a Bill cognate to the present Bill was under the consideration of the Legislative Council of the Governor-General. It had happened that the member in charge of that Bill, as representing the Government of India, had taken on this particular point a view directly opposite to that which the Committee on this Bill had adopted. His Honor would read to the Council a portion of the speech of the member who was in charge of that Bill in the Council of the Governor-General. He told the Legislative Council of the Governor-General that great portions of his Bill were taken from the Bengal Bill. He then went on to say, comparing his own Bill with the Bengal Bill—

“There was one clause which was conspicuous by its absence, and it would no doubt be asked why it was absent. It was one which was present in the Bengal Act, the Madras Act, and the general Emigration Act—a clause which made it penal for anybody to enable a person to emigrate, except in accordance with the provisions of the Act. That penalty we proposed to omit, for the reason which Mr. Hounhouse had already explained to the Council, namely, that it was not our desire to repress nor to fetter, but to encourage emigration. Mr. Hounhouse could understand why such a clause should be in the General Emigration Act or in the Madras Act, because when the emigrant went beyond the bounds of India or the Madras Presidency, he was beyond the law, and the framers of that law would be quite unable to see him righted if he suffered wrong. But why there should be that penalty upon emigration within the Indian dominions he could not understand.”

Then he went on—

“If it (emigration) sprang up under the Act, we should be delighted; but if it sprang up independently of the Act, Mr. Hounhouse for one would be more delighted still; at present he did not believe it would spring up of itself, but that was no reason why we should discourage voluntary emigration. It was quite sufficient to say that those who did not conform to the provisions of the Act should not have the benefit of contracts under the Act. Mr. Hounhouse could not conceive a more healthy influence on the condition of Indian laborers than that they should be induced, by returning emigrants or otherwise, to pass of their own accord in large numbers to places where people were willing to employ them. If they would do that, it would, in his opinion, be a better state of things than anything that we could hope for under this Bill, and we certainly ought not to put anything in the Bill that would repress such action.”

His Honor did not wish to press on the Council this opinion as in any degree superior to that of the Committee on this Bill. He merely read the passage to show that very considerable authorities might differ from that opinion. Not only also did a great authority representing the views of the Government of India differ from that opinion, but amongst the mercantile gentlemen consulted, there were some who had taken an opinion similar to that of the Government of India and different from that of the Committee of this Council. He found that Messrs. Borradaile, Schiller and Co. said this:—

“Although we have thus far found recruiting under the Act the best policy, we are nevertheless of opinion that a system of free recruiting, as proposed by the Lieutenant-Governor, is worthy of a trial. Government interference no doubt retards more or less the flow of emigration, and we are inclined to think that the removal of all restrictions and penalties would not only be a boon to the employer, but inspire the laboring classes with greater confidence, and eventually prove of benefit to all interested in the welfare of tea in India.”

“At the same time we are averse to an immediate abolition of the system at present in operation. This system has worked fairly well so far. Free emigration, on the other hand, has to be tried, and we therefore think it would be advisable to allow—for a time at least—recruiting under either system.”

Then we came next to the opinion of Messrs. Jardine Skinner and Co., an eminent firm, whose authority would have much weight in this Council. They said—

“We take leave to concur in His Honor’s opinion — to free-recruiting being quite compatible with a contract system, and there is no reason that we know of why the two systems should not work together.”

His Honor had not at all placed these opinions in the balance against the opinion of the Committee of the Council. But he said that both official and private opinions did sometimes differ from that of the Committee of the

Council, and therefore he was inclined to suggest, notwithstanding the great authority of that Committee, that the question was still open to consideration. Then as regards the general question as to whether in the districts of Cachar and Sylhet free-recruiting might not be tried, it was certain, as the learned ADVOCATE-GENERAL had put it, that there was a great tendency on the part of the planters to say—"Free-recruiting is an excellent thing, but the freedom of the coolie was not at all so good a thing." That was an inconsistent view which the Council were not at all likely to accept. But on the other hand, it did not seem that the planters had universally taken this somewhat unreasonable, though not unnatural, view. A good many of them had given an opinion distinctly favorable to the plan His Honor had the honor to propound. He found, amongst the opinions given, the opinion of Mr. R. Blechynden, who said—

"I am quite in favor of the proposal, being of opinion that the adoption of such a system of free-recruiting is very desirable, that it can be carried out satisfactorily, and is likely to prove of benefit to the managers of gardens and of advantage to all concerned in tea cultivation."

In this case no reservation was made that the penal clauses of the Bill should be retained whilst the others should be abrogated.

Then His Honor found that the gentleman representing the Directors of the East India Tea Company, Limited, said—

"I am instructed to express their entire approval of the proposal, as they consider the adoption of a system of free-recruiting will prove advantageous to the tea interests generally, and they therefore trust the measure may be sanctioned."

Next, His Honor found that the Directors of the Bengal Tea Company, Limited, also express their entire approval of the proposal.

Then Mr. S. H. Robinson—

"Fully concurs in the opinion expressed by the Landholders' Association, that such free-emigration may be quite safely permitted, and should be freed from all legislative restriction, except such as may be necessary for the purposes of sanitation on the river voyage for emigrants in parties over 20 in number."

Then His Honor found that Messrs. Whitney Brothers said—

"It is our opinion that the interests of the employer and laborer are best served by being left to themselves as much as possible, and we think that the proposal of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is a great step in the right direction."

And His Honor would draw attention to this as showing that they fully considered the interest of the coolie—

"No contracts should be valid which are made before the arrival of the laborers in the tea districts, and with this restriction we feel quite confident that good results will ensue, for employers having to bear the expense of forwarding the coolies will be exceedingly careful in their own interests to engage with none but those who seem in robust health, and are entirely contented with regard to their future expectations."

Then he came to the letter from Messrs. William Moran and Co., who said—

"From our own experience and our knowledge of the views entertained by our planter friends, we have no doubt that free recruiting of labor would be a great boon in some respects, but if that is to be attained by release of the laborers of all restraints imposed by the Contract Law, we much fear a successful issue to such an alteration."

"For the protection of the planter we would venture to suggest that the ordinary law of contract should prevail."

They said that the planter should not be left without protection, and that the ordinary law of contract should prevail, not a highly penal law. Then they went on to say—

"And on the part of the laborer let the Passengers and Carriers Act be amended, if necessary, to secure his full protection; but employers are so thoroughly alive to the advisability of treating their labor force well, and making them happy and contented, that they are not likely to encourage deception."

It seemed, then, that these opinions were not one-sided opinions. Then His Honor would recur to the letter of Messrs. Jardine, Skinner and Co. They went on to say—

"We feel sure that most of the gardens in Cachar would adopt free recruiting, if it was introduced under conditions equitable to both employer and laborer. His Honor propose

that no contract should be binding for more than one year, unless the cooly had been six months in the tea district. In answer to this we would submit that coolies are seldom recruited under the cost of Rs. 20 per head."

Then having that basis they went on to suggest the terms which they proposed—

"We would allow laborers to proceed to Cachar direct at their own cost if they choose, and, on the other hand, if their expenses are to be borne by the employer, they should contract with him for eighteen months at least, which, at the rate of bonus for time-expired men, ought nearly to repay the expenses of bringing them to the province. The time named is only six months more than His Honor mentions, and, it seems to us, would offer sufficient inducement for working on the free recruiting system."

So that, in the opinion of Messrs. Jardine, Skinner and Co., they only wished to extend the term of one year to eighteen months. But that, not improbably, this question of a difference of six months might be got over, was made apparent by another statement by which the expense of setting the coolie down in Cachar might be very materially reduced. Probably Rs. 10 would cover the whole operation. If that be so, then a contract for one year would quite sufficiently cover the expense. His Honor had before him a statement which showed the exact expense of conveying a coolie to Cachar:

	Rs.	A.	P.
Railway fare to Kooshtea	1	12	3
Boat hire from Kooshtea to Cachar, from Rs. 2 to, at the outside	2	■	0
Food purchased on the way during twenty days' average passage, at As. 1-6 per day per man, when a number are travelling together	1	14	■
Total	6	2	3

So that, if we put out of the question the purchase-money now paid to the professional recruiter, Rs. 6-2-3 would cover the expense of transporting a coolie to Cachar. Throw in other incidental expenses, and the cost would probably be Rs. 10 per head. At that rate of expense a long term of contract would not be required to recoup the planter's expense.

With respect to another district nearer to Bengal, and also under the Labor Act, namely, Sylhet, he would read to the Council what the Magistrate had said, and it seemed to him conclusive from these remarks that Sylhet was not a district to which the Act should be applied:—

"The largest gardens are practically worked on the free recruiting principle, which the Lieutenant-Governor is so anxious not merely to extend but to legalize. Thus, for instance, the Laltee Cherra Tea Garden has no imported coolies. It has nearly 900 free coolies; and so with Malvi Cherra, Tilaghar, Cherragang, Lokartura, Darabhar, and Gamariah, but on a smaller scale. The principle adopted by the owners and managers of these tea gardens is this. They give out openly that they will have no "agreement" coolies, and that any cooly who chooses might come and settle in their gardens and take up their quarters in their cooly lines; that they may work as they please and when they please, and that they may go away when they please and return when they please. Now this system has worked remarkably well in Sylhet. Mr. Jennings, one of the pioneers of tea-planting in Sylhet, assures me that he will never have an "agreement" cooly again. Mr. Foly and Mr. Hudson tell me that they sometimes have a great many more coolies settled in their lines than they can possibly have work for."

That certainly was strong testimony to the system of free recruiting. If it was the reality—if it was believed by the Council—he could not conceive the Council continuing the existing system in Sylhet. Cachar was very close to Sylhet, and was separated by only an artificial boundary. If a free system was so good in Sylhet, it could hardly be very bad in Cachar.

On the other hand, in Assam, the testimony was of an opposite character, and the opinion both of the Government officers and planters was that Assam was not yet prepared for a system of free recruiting. The parts of Assam in which tea gardens existed were much further removed than were Cachar and Sylhet. The means of communication were infinitely more difficult, and it was impossible to get coolies up to Assam without a very large expense. His Honor was doing all he could to improve the means of communication to Assam; but in the meantime communication was undoubtedly difficult and expensive. Having regard, then, not only to the expenses incurred by the

planters, but to the protection and welfare of the coolies on isolated gardens, far from Magistrates and Protectors, it would not, he feared, be feasible to work a system of free recruiting in Assam at present. As regards Assam, there was an opinion with regard to the proposal for free recruiting to which His Honor would refer. The writer of the letter (Mr. Langlois) said "there was no use of mincing words in such an important matter," and he certainly kept his word. He says:

"You would force upon your managers the painful necessity of taking the law into their own hands to protect your interests. The position of your coolies at your gardens would become one far from enviable. The Civil Courts can afford us no relief. It is ludicrous to think of summoning a coolie for breach of contract. Bear in mind that these men do not benefit one pie of the money paid by you to your recruiters."

That last was the saddest part of Mr. Langlois' statement. The recruiters put the money into their own pockets and persuaded the coolies to go; but the coolie did not get a pie. The time had not come to get rid of the recruiters as regards Assam. But His Honor was, he ventured to say, still inclined to think that the time had come to introduce a free system in Cachar and Sylhet; at any rate, the time had come when it was incumbent on the Council very seriously to consider the subject.

The course he suggested was this, that if the Council thought proper to take into consideration the Bill in the form recommended by the Select Committee, we should not proceed further that day, but should adjourn the Council to that day week. In the meantime it would be open to any members to submit any further amendment they wished to propose. He thought it would be not unlikely that the Government might propose tentatively, with a view to consideration by the Council and the public, some amendments which they might deem worthy of consideration; and his view would be, that having received any amendments which might be submitted to the Council at their meeting next week, and having discussed them so far as the Council was disposed to discuss them, we should abandon the further consideration of the Bill till after the long vacation. In the meantime, we should formally consult the officers in charge of the districts, and the planters and employers of laborers—those interested in the question—and, as far as might be, the coolies themselves. It was hoped that a great deal of evidence would be forthcoming within the next two months, and the Council would then be in a position to judge of the course it was desirable to follow. In the meantime, also, we would try to learn from the Government of India what was the probable course of events in regard to these labor districts, and in regard to the Bill now before the Council of the Governor-General. His suggestion was, that after we had heard what any hon'ble member might say to-day, we should adjourn the further consideration of the Bill.

THE HON'BLE MR. ROBINSON said he had only one remark to make on the subject of free recruiting. He felt very strongly convinced, that there had been some misapprehension as to what the proposal really was, from the manner in which the question was put. It so happened that he was present at a conversation between Mr. Wordie of the firm of Messrs. Jardine, Skinner and Co., and Mr. Struthers of Messrs. Borradaile, Schiller and Co. Both those gentlemen had no idea whatever that the proposal contemplated going so far as removing restrictions from the coolie after his arrival in the gardens. They were both clear on the subject that so far as removing restrictions to emigration was concerned, they entirely agreed. But they were not in the least prepared to remove the existing restrictions upon the coolie when he was working in the gardens. And MR. ROBINSON most certainly hoped that before the question was entered into, some steps might be taken to elicit what the opinions of these gentlemen were; otherwise the Council would only be working in the dark, and would add to the difficulties surrounding the subject.

The motion was then agreed to.

The further consideration of the Bill was postponed.

(To be continued.)

ROAD COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE WESTERN TO THE NORTH-EASTERN DISTRICTS OF BENGAL.

RESOLUTION.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Calcutta, the 1st September 1873.

READ—

Lieutenant-Governor's note of the 27th August 1873, on the subject of facilitating passenger traffic from the districts west of Purneah and Bhaugulpore, as far as the commencement of the Assam Grand Trunk Road, opposite Dhoobree on the Berhampooter.

Read also—

Mr. Stevens' (Engineer, Durbhanga Estate,) letter of the 21st August 1873.

The Government of India will be requested to allow this Government, with reference to paragraph 3 of the note, to depute a civil officer to inquire into the lines of traffic between the western and eastern districts of Bengal; and the Public Works Department will be requested to select a good engineer officer to examine and survey the ground. The Commissioner of Cooch Behar will report on the subject of a steam ferry over the Berhampooter.

NOTE.

In all the notices of the movements of the population, which the local administration reports now contain, there is evidence of the continual tendency of labor to flow from the western districts to the north-eastern districts of Bengal. It is clear that a large influx of western labor reaches Rungpore, Dinagepore, Bograh, and Cooch Behar, from the Hindustanee districts of the Patna Division, and from the aboriginal districts of Chota Nagpore, &c., and to some extent from Nepal. The reports from Purneah, Julpigoree, Dinagepore, &c., make mention of large streams of laborers passing through every year from west to east. Some of these people remain throughout the year in various kinds of service; more of them seem to come in the cold weather for a few months, and to go back again. A few find their way over the Berhampooter to the Mymensing district. We are told, for instance, that hundreds of Hindustanee bearers come there every season. There are instances of small parties walking up into Assam, but they are comparatively rare; the emigration into Assam is at present for the most part confined to the transport of coolies by steamer from Goalundo, boat navigation to Upper Assam being very rare and difficult.

In this paper I shall put aside the more southerly stream of labor traffic from the western parts of the Burdwan Division, the southern parts of Chota Nagpore, and other parts of Southern Bengal, by Goalundo, and thence by boat to Sylhet and Cachar. I would also leave out here the plans for improving the steam navigation of the Berhampooter from Goalundo upwards; this is being separately dealt with. Also I leave out the route up the Assam Valley from its gates at Dhoobree by road or railway; that also is a separate matter.

What I would now consider is the means of facilitating the labor traffic from the west to the districts north of the Ganges, and if possible by facilitation I would extend eastwards the flow of this current. I am more and more convinced that one principal mode of avoiding the mortality, great expense, and other evils of the coolie transport to Assam, and promoting the population and cultivation of the latter province, is a free immigration of this kind.

The object here set forth must then be to facilitate passenger traffic from the districts west of Purneah and Bhaugulpore as far as the commencement of what is (by a fiction) called the Assam Grand Trunk Road opposite Dhoobree on the Berhampooter. The proposed new line of the Northern Bengal Railway will run at right angles to this current of passenger traffic, and will not much subserve it. But the branches to Dinagepore and Rungpore, thrown off from a common starting point, will form a continuous line between those two important places, and will be a considerable section of a west to east route.

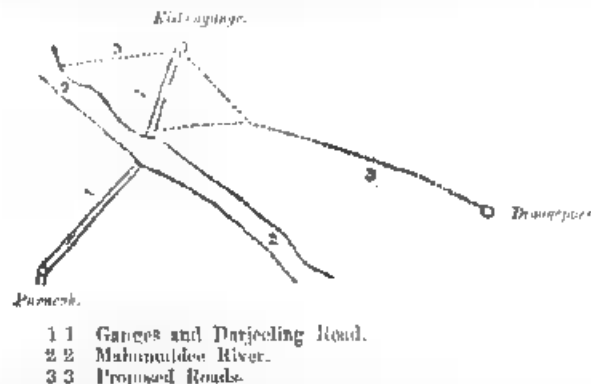
It is material to observe that a passenger traffic, such as is the subject of the present note, is one of which the conditions are materially different from a goods traffic, and is more easily accommodated. Breaks and transshipments, if frequent, are fatal to a goods traffic, but passengers pack and unpack themselves with great facility. Hence large unbridged rivers affect them little if they are only such that ferry boats can easily ply, and not so large as to make the crossing very tedious and dangerous.

The traffic which I wish to promote seems principally to follow two main lines—that from the districts south of the Ganges to Maldah, Dinagepore, Bograh, and Rungpore, and that from the districts of Behar north of the Ganges and Nepal, by the northern portion of the Purneah district to Julpigoree, Cooch Behar, Rungpore, and Dinagepore. These two lines are connected by the Ganges and Darjeeling Road; so that a man from Patna or Gya, who comes down by rail to Bhaugulpore and Colgong, might travel up the road to Titalya and

Jalpigoree, and then to Cooch Behar, &c. This, however, is a long and roundabout route not generally taken. What is most wanted is to connect the East Indian Railway line with Dinagore, and North Behar with the North Bengal districts.

For the former connection two alternative routes seem to present themselves. The one would be to follow the Ganges-Darjeeling Road from Caragolah by Purneah to the Mahanuddee crossing (a tramway might well be put on this portion of that road), and thence by a new or improved road to Dinagore. The other would follow the railway to Rajmahal, and thence cross by the Muldah district, and so to Dinagore.

The northern line is probably the most important of the two. The great surplus population of Sarun and Tirhoot seems to be one which is very ready to migrate, especially since so much land is now taken into the direct possession of indigo-planters. There are tolerable roads in Tirhoot, and Durbungah may be taken as the main point of departure for the east. Thence I believe a road to Purneah would not be very difficult; or we might take a more northerly line through the Madheypore sub-division of Tirhoot and Soopool sub-division of Bhagulpore, and might thus connect with Kishengunge the northern sub-division of Purneah on the Ganges-Darjeeling Road. A good deal would depend on the best place for crossing the Kooser. From Kishengunge we might follow the road to near Titalya and thence to Jalpigoree (the Titalya-Jalpigoree Road being improved). From Jalpigoree a road runs through Cooch Behar to Doobree on the Berhampooter. The Cooch Behar Raj has already done much to this road, and I have urged the Commissioner to do more. We should complete properly our portion of this road. Still much of this traffic might seek a more southerly route to Dinagore, Rungpore, and Begrah, and if so, a road from Kishengunge to Dinagore would be wanted. One road with two short branches might lead from Purneah by the Mahanuddee Ferry (where there may some day be a bridge) on one side, and from Kishengunge on the other to Dinagore; thus—



The crossing of the Berhampooter is very difficult, and the churs, islands, and changes of the stream render it very long and tedious. No good and easy crossing can be got unless we follow the right bank all the way up to Goalpara, at least, through a very jungly country. (Major Lindsay's trial survey has shown this.) A steam ferry over the Berhampooter is a very crying necessity. For this purpose it would be desirable to gather together and unite, if possible, the Dinagore-Rungpore line of traffic and the Jalpigoree-Cooch Behar line (so far as each stream may go on towards Assam), and taking them together to land them on the other side. The nearest point of the Berhampooter to Rungpore is Bugwah, considerably below Doobree; but it strikes me that if instead of this line the Rungpore-Cooch Behar Road were followed from Rungpore to the crossing of the Bhurrah, and thence a line were taken something like that surveyed by Major Lindsay on his trial towards Assam (which was only unfavorable for a railway in respect of heavy river crossings), a road might be made to meet the Cooch Behar-Doobree road, and so the two lines would be united at Doobree or some such place, where a steam ferry would cross the passengers.

Although the above is grounded on a good deal of personal inquiry, and a study of the map, much of it is necessarily conjectural. I think a systematic study of the subject and a rough survey should be made. I would go about this much as we went about the North Bengal survey last year—a civil officer being deputed to inquire into the lines of traffic, and an engineer officer to examine and survey the ground. Of course a very much rougher survey than a railway survey would be required. We only want to prospect for roads which may be made fit for ordinary native passenger traffic—I may say for foot and horse traffic at all seasons, and for carts in fine weather only. The bridging of ferryable rivers need not be attempted. The Public Works Department should be requested to select a good man for the duty. Major Lindsay's trial survey will be placed at his disposal. The Government of India will be asked to allow us to depute for two or three months a good civil officer, of grade not higher than a Magistrate-Collector, and probably lower; an acting man being put in his place. These officers should commence work as soon as the season will permit.

I have, just as I conclude writing this, received a very valuable note by Mr. Stevens, Engineer of the Durbungah Estate, who knows thoroughly the country east of the Kooser and will so far give all the requisite information and assistance.

G. CAMPBELL.

RESOLUTION ON THE ASSAM GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
REPORT FOR 1872-73.

RESOLUTION.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Calcutta, the 8th September 1873.

READ—

The General Administration Report of the Province of Assam for the year 1872-73.

The Lieutenant-Governor observes that the report would have been more convenient for the purposes of Government, if it had embraced the province as a whole, distinguishing features of its separate parts where they are distinguishing, and had not so much reproduced the separate accounts of each district, and even of each sub-division on every subject. The report contains no doubt very much useful information, and very valuable remarks of the Commissioner, but it is only by gleaning and collating that full use can be made of it.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to see that most of the officers went much about their districts. He notices with approbation the remark of one officer that he "strove to open, as it were, to the people during his tour a short cut to the ears of Government, without their being obliged to go through the usual tortuous ways of courts, petitions, and routine."

3. Happily the concurrent testimony of all seems to show that ■ a rule the indigenous population of Assam is, judged by an Indian standard, very well off. "The agriculturalists," says the Deputy Commissioner of Nowgong, "are really wonderfully well off." "Our ryots," declares the Commissioner, "are much better off and much more independent than any class of ryots in the permanently-settled districts." Labor is very well paid, food is not dear, and with great abundance of a productive soil, and a sparse population, the Assamese live in comparative comfort, without having to undergo any kind of severe toil. The Cacharees are the cream of the population, and are a very fine race indeed.

4. More than one opinion is given in this report that the general population of Assam is not increasing; and this seems to be the general belief. The cause of this (if it be ■ fact) is, however, not so apparent. One officer attributes it to the people being so well off, but he does not explain how this operates. Another attributes it to their opium-eating. But there is no reason to suppose that the Assamese have reached the advanced stage of civilization in which prudence deters from marriage and checks population; and it seems to be the case that though much opium is consumed, the practice is not carried to such an excess ■ to have a very ruinous effect on the general population. Though there has been a good deal of cholera in the past season, the general tendency of all the district accounts and of all the information which the Lieutenant-Governor has been able to gather from various sources, does not seem to indicate that the open and cultivated parts of Assam are specially unhealthy, and that the unhealthiness of the country would account for a complete stagnation or retrogression in population. In Assam, however, where there is a very good indigenous paid agency all over the province, and the system of annual settlements gives exceptional means of a knowledge of the country and the people, Government should be in possession of statistics fuller and better than elsewhere; and the Lieutenant-Governor will look both to a careful working of the specimen areas for vital statistics, as well as to the submission of good and careful returns for the districts generally, to obtain statistics of life which shall truly show the movements of the population, and make clear whether it is really so little progressive as is supposed.

But be that as it may, it cannot be expected that the spontaneous progress of population will be particularly rapid, or that the small existing population will multiply so fast as to fill the country speedily. His Honor thoroughly and entirely recognizes what has repeatedly been said, that the great want of

the province is population. It seems to be quite beyond doubt that it once supported a much larger population. This decadence, the Lieutenant-Governor believes, is the result of anarchy and the want of protection against the many wild border tribes. A commencement has been made towards giving that protection. His Honor's hope is, that the measures designed will eventually give protection completely, and that if we can only open sufficient channels for population to flow in, it will flow in to fill the vacuum, and the province may be developed into a most wealthy and productive one. Already His Honor is glad to see that the immigrants begin to form permanent Bengali villages, and he hopes that this may increase. Still it is unfortunately the case that Assam is cut off from the rest of India by long distances and difficult routes. The districts of eastern Bengal to which it is nearest are those in which labor is dearest and population most wanted to gather the rich staples developing there, and for immigration from the districts where the population more presses on the means of subsistence we must have better means of communication before we can expect that it will be free and voluntary to any large extent.

5. The Brahmaputra, the splendid river of Assam, is unfortunately deficient in the means of navigation in an extreme degree, and boat traffic above Gowhatti is excessively scarce, while the steam service is very dilatory, and unhappily not unfrequently attended with great loss of life. What is undoubtedly most wanted is improved communication from the western districts by road, railway or improved steam services. This subject has been under the separate consideration of the Lieutenant-Governor, who has been endeavouring to do all he can to secure it, and it will be very prominently brought to the notice of the Government of India.

6. With respect to the immigrant laborers in the tea gardens, the Lieutenant-Governor has read with very great pleasure the Commissioner's account of the improvement in the state of things reported. "I visited," says Colonel Hopkinson, "a good many tea gardens, inspected the coolies, looked at their lines, and was much pleased with what I saw. The tea plantations were on a happier footing than they used to be in former years, as if the improvement in the financial prospects of tea cultivation had communicated itself to every part of the industry. The coolies looked happy, well, and contented, and for the most part appeared on excellent terms with their masters; these too, as if they had become more hopeful and more satisfied with their position, seemed to think more about making themselves comfortable; their houses were better kept, pains had been taken to attach good vegetable gardens to them, and here and there pretty flower gardens were making their appearance. Tea-planting certainly never appeared to me in so inviting an aspect before. I found the coolies fairly well lodged, and sanitary measures by no means neglected in their lines." The tea industry is now evidently prosperous, and cultivation is being steadily pushed on. The Commissioner reports that the working of the concerns is generally, so far as can be judged, carried on in a safe and prudent manner. It gives the Lieutenant-Governor much gratification to notice this success and progress, and the thorough establishment of tea-planting as no longer a speculation, but an honest industry. His Honor will only say that he could wish to see people cultivating their own gardens more largely and the ownership not so often passing into the hands of limited liability Companies. At present too many it is said, still strive to get up Companies.

The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that the new waste land rules will shortly be approved by the Government of India, and that every facility will be given for the fair acquisition, on fair terms, by speedy and clear process, of the lands required for *bond fide* tea-planting, while the land-jobbing and abuse which have been proved by experience to result from the adoption of too easy rules and an irregular practice are avoided. The laws regarding the recruitment and transport of laborers and the conditions under which they work out their contracts, are under the consideration of the Bengal Legislative Council. It is the Lieutenant-Governor's wish to give every liberty and freedom consistent with providing against abuse. The easy and cheap influx of labor is the last thing which His Honor would be disposed to check.

7. His Honor trusts that cinchona also may be grown in Assam. The Deputy Commissioner of the Khasi and Jynteah Hills, whilst on a visit at Nunkhilow last September, noticed some very fine cinchona trees in the gardens; but these gardens have not been worked of late, and their cultivation is not extended.

The rubber trade is one that engages attention to develop the supply without waste and destruction.

Seeing how dear elephants are becoming, the great elephant resources of Assam also demand care. It may be hoped that the new regulation will enable Government to regulate without checking enterprise on the frontier.

As regards the produce of the plain country, the Lieutenant-Governor observes that oil-seeds seem to be the principal export, and it is a profitable and increasing trade which may be developed to any extent. The absence of a jute trade in a country where the soil and climate seem so favorable, is strange; but perhaps its absence is in a great measure to be accounted for by the absence of the labor required for its preparation. This, like many other things, can probably only be cured by immigration.

Cotton is already cultivated in the hills and the sub-montane tracts, and His Honor trusts that its growth may be very largely developed.

The Lieutenant-Governor is aware of the great mineral resources of Assam and of the excellent quality of its coal. The Khasi and Jynteah Hills, especially, excel perhaps any part of India in respect of minerals. If there were only some addition to the population so enterprising and energetic (female as well as male—perhaps more than male) we might expect to have not only flocks and cinchona, cotton and fruit-trees, but it is probable that the combination of the best coal, iron, and lime in one place, together with an iron-working population, might make these hills the best manufacturing district in India. The newly annexed tract of the Garo Hills may possibly much extend the field for such industries.

The Lieutenant-Governor notices that in pursuance of his previous instruction a tree nursery and orchard have been established at Shillong, for which a tract of land about 1,500 acres in quantity has been taken up close to the station. A supply of Scotch fir, silver fir, larch and ash seeds obtained from the Botanical Gardens were sown here, but never germinated. It is to be hoped that Colonel Bivar will persevere and be more successful with another supply of seeds this year.

8. The Lieutenant-Governor observes that the public press is in a fair state of development in Assam for so remote a province. There are three local newspapers, two at Soebhaugor and one in Gowhatty. The Commissioner speaks favorably of the tone of the press which, so far as it has any influence is said to exercise a beneficial one rather than otherwise.

9. The Lieutenant-Governor believes there is a great deal of truth in the statement put forward by the Deputy Commissioner of Kamroop that in Assam a too strict adherence to the principles laid down in Hindoo law leads to grave injustice sometimes at the hands of foreign Moonsiffs who are unacquainted with the local usages of the province. "There are many particulars," writes Colonel Lamb, "connected with the social condition of the Assamese altogether dissimilar to the provisions of the Hindoo and Mahomedan law; and as regards the aboriginal tribes settled in the province, although some of them have been admitted within a modified Hindooism, yet they still continue to be governed by their own social observances. It would, therefore, occasionally cause grave injustice to administer a rigorous Hindoo law among the people of Assam. "I may mention," he says, "as an instance that the custom of divorce is quite unknown to Hindoo law, although nothing is more common among the Hindoo population of the province. Besides the subject of divorce, there are numerous others connected with marriage, inheritance and other usages, in which a knowledge of the habits and customs of the people is very conducive to the satisfactory discharge of both civil and criminal work, and it is, therefore, very desirable that a greater number of young men of the country should be induced to qualify themselves for employment in the administration of justice." All this is quite true, and the Lieutenant-Governor has noticed the same thing in several

other parts of India. His Honor has no doubt that much evil must result if Bengalee lawyers introduce their own Hindoo law into a province where local custom has much varied it; and now that judicial officers in Assam have been separated from those in Bengal, he trusts that every effort will be used to correct this tendency, and to get capable people of the country acquainted with the indigenous laws and customs. In the same sense writes Mr. Carnegie, the sub-divisional officer of Jorhaut: "When exercising Moonsiff's powers, I found that nearly all the disputes leading to cases, except tradesmen's suits brought for goods sold, had been previously brought before a 'salis' for settlement, and that my Court was in reality used as a Court of appeal from the decision given there by those dissatisfied with the justice meted out to them. I generally took the trouble to find out what decision the 'salis' had come to, and almost invariably found it to have been one essentially just, though not always legal according to our ideas." The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that every encouragement will be given to this system of arbitration. The supply of judicial officers no doubt creates the demand for litigation to a very considerable extent. This is generally the case, and must be so; but His Honor trusts that in Assam the Courts will not encourage anything which tends to the obliteration of an indigenous agency and of indigenous customs having the force of law.

10. The Lieutenant-Governor has great pleasure in recognizing, from a revenue point of view, the great success which has attended the Commissioner's exertions in working out the land revenue system in Assam. At the same time, although the revenue is very punctually collected, in the last year or two it appears that this revenue does not advance, or rather, that it is slightly less, and in the three upper districts of Assam is considerably less. It appears also from the excessive number of annual resignations of ryots' holdings, from the almost universal refusal to take 10 years' leases, and from other indications, that the assessment is now so high that no margin of value is given to the land. It is said, that the ryots are induced to go away and settle in tea gardens, this, though a loss to the revenue, is not a loss to the country; but tea planters can and do attract immigrants from outside, and His Honor would not like to believe that the estates are cultivated at the expense of the ordinary cultivation of the province, when the province is already so wanting in population and cultivation. The Commissioner's attention has been separately called to these questions which are of the first importance to the province.

11. A great impulse is reported from all the districts to have been given to education during the year, and primary schools have been started everywhere. The Lieutenant-Governor hopes that education will be pushed on rapidly, especially now that it is to be given in the language of the people—a measure which certainly seems to be very popular. It is noteworthy that in Assam, as in several other parts of the country, the education committees have shown more interest than the committees in other departments.

12. The condition of the principal road in Assam—called the Trunk Road—is described as very unequal in different parts of its course. Government has endeavoured to make this road throughout a post-road, and in places has improved it for local purposes; but nothing more can be done until the Government has at its command very large funds for the construction either of a very great and expensive road or a railway; and His Honor thinks that we must perhaps now wait for the latter as cheaper in proportion. On the other hand, as regards local roads, the state of things seems to be by no means so bad as it might be. The Commissioner, in his visit to Durrung, found the roads in excellent condition, and the Seobsaugor and Nowgong roads have shown signs of much improvement. Of the latter district, the Deputy Commissioner records that the general state of communication throughout the district is "certainly matter for congratulation." With the aid of the very liberal grants which the Lieutenant-Governor has lately made to assist the construction and repairs of such roads, Assam ought soon to be pretty well off in this respect. Attention must be given to the improvement of the Luckhimpore roads, which are perhaps the worst in the province. Liberal grants have been made for them.

The Lieutenant-Governor cannot agree with the conclusion of the Commissioner of Assam and his district officers that the road committees are of no practical use. It is clear that the planters must be much interested in the roads. A committee of planters and mouzadars might at least meet at the most convenient season to make a fair distribution of the funds. Often a little money will be best utilized by a member of a committee interested in a road; and it appears quite evident from what Major Lance has written, as well as from other parts of the report, that the planters are willing to assist by money contributions and supervision any efforts of Government in this direction. The Lieutenant-Governor thinks that the Commissioner's proposal for allowing the mouzadars trifling sums to keep village roads in repair is a very good one.

13. The political administration of Assam is the subject of a separate report and orders, and the relations of the British Government with frontier tribes, and the explorations of country on our borders, though they have occupied much of the Lieutenant-Governor's attention during the year, will not be discussed in this place.

14. The Lieutenant-Governor desires to express his special thanks to the Commissioner, Colonel Hopkinson, for his able and in-seeing supervision of the province, and very fully acknowledges his sense of what Assam owes to the Commissioner for his long and successful administration.

* * * * *

APPEALS PREFERRED TO HER MAJESTY IN COUNCIL.

No. 1317, dated Simla, the 19th August 1873.

Endorsed by—The Government of India, Home Department.

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information.

Dated Council Office, Whitehall, London, the 1st July 1873.

From—H. REEVE, Esq., Registrar, Privy Council,

To—A. C. LYALL, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I AM directed by the Lord President of the Council to transmit to you, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General of India, six copies of an order of Her Majesty in Council of the 26th June 1873, requiring parties appellant in causes pending before Her Majesty to take effectual steps to set down their cases for hearing within a limited time from the registration of the appeal in England, and I am to request that you will move His Excellency to take the necessary steps to bring this order to the knowledge of parties prosecuting appeals to Her Majesty in Council, and of the public in India.

AT THE COURT AT WINDSOR CASTLE.

The 26th day of June 1873.

PRESENT:

THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY IN COUNCIL.

WHEREAS in many appeals now pending before Her Majesty in Council no effectual steps have been taken by the parties or their agents to set down their cases for hearing, although more than twelve months have elapsed since the arrival and registration of the transcript of appeal in this country, and it is expedient to make further provision in that behalf, Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, and upon a recommendation of the Lords of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, is pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that the solicitors or agents for the party appellant in all such appeals now pending before Her Majesty in Council are hereby required to take effectual steps to set down their cases for hearing within six months from the date of this order, and in all other appeals to Her Majesty in Council within a period not exceeding twelve months from the date of the arrival and registration of the transcript in this country.

And Her Majesty is further pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that it shall be the duty of the Registrar of the Privy Council to report to the Lords of the Judicial Committee the names of the parties and dates of the decrees in appeals in which no effectual steps have been taken within the aforesaid periods of time to set down the case for hearing; and the Lords of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council shall be at liberty to call upon the appellant or his agent in such cases to show cause why the said appeal or appeals should not be dismissed for non-prosecution, and (if they shall so think fit) to recommend to Her Majesty the dismissal of any such appeal, or to give such directions therein as the justice of the case may require.

And Her Majesty is further pleased to order that nothing in the present order shall prevent the dismissal of an appeal under the 5th of the rules approved by Her Majesty on the 13th of June 1853, in cases to which that rule is applicable.

Whereof the Governors of Her Majesty's plantations and dominions abroad, and the Judges or Officers of Her Majesty's Courts of Justice from which an appeal lies to Her Majesty in Council, and all other persons whom it may concern, are to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Prices Current of Food-grains and Salt in the undermentioned

		QUANTITIES PER RUPEE											
DIVISIONS.	DISTRICTS.	WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.		
		Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding re- turn of last year.
BENGAL.													
Western Districts.													
BURDWAN	1 Bardwan	13 0	13 4	15 0	24 0	20 0	21 8	18 4	18 0	20 0	17 4	17 0	21 0
	2 Banchura	13 1	13 4	14 4	22 0	22 0	20 0	15 12	15 4	17 0	18 8	17 8	16 4
	3 Berhampore	14 8	14 8	17 0	18 11	...	...	18 8	18 8	16 0	20 0	20 0	18 0
	4 Midnapore	12 8	12 8	12 8	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	17 0	25 0	24 0	22 0
	5 Hooghly	13 0	13 0	18 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	13 0	18 0	18 0	10 0
	Howrah	15 0	15 0	15 0	25 0	25 0	22 0	18 0	18 8	18 0	20 0	20 0	20 0
Central Districts.													
PRESDENCY	6 24-Pergunnahs	12 8	13 4	18 0	25 0	20 0	22 8	0 2	8 0	8 12	18 12	19 0	17 12
	7 Nuddea	13 5	14 8	15 4	32 0	32 0	29 2	15 4	15 4	18 0	17 11	17 0	17 11
	8 Jessor	13 5	13 8	18 0	...	...	...	18 8	19 4	18 8	...	26 0	26 0
RAJSHAHY	9 Moershedabad	15 0	16 11	20 0	...	...	...	14 0	12 8	18 2	17 0	16 0	19 0
	10 Dinagpore	14 0	11 0	13 4	18 0	23 0	21 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	23 0	21 0	20 0
	11 Malda	16 0	17 0	18 0	35 0	35 0	40 0	18 0	17 0	22 0	19 0	18 0	23 0
	12 Rajshahye	15 0	15 11	15 0	30 0	30 0	38 12	13 8	16 0	13 0	18 0	18 0	22 8
	13 Rangpore	15 0	15 0	15 0	...	...	...	14 0	12 10	14 0	18 0	18 0	22 8
	14 Bogra	13 8	12 0	10 8	...	...	...	12 8	13 8	19 8	24 0	24 0	20 0
	Patna	15 0	17 0	24 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	16 0	21 0	22 8	22 8
COCHIN BEHAR	16 Darjeeling	5 0	5 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 0	14 0	13 0
	17 Jaldigee	12 0	12 0	10 0	...	...	...	14 0	13 0	8 0	18 0	19 0	16 0
	Cooch Behar.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eastern Districts.													
DACCA	18 Dacca	13 0	13 8	16 0	23 0	21 0	23 10	20 0	20 0	21 0	25 0	25 0	23 0
	19 Furredpore	20 0	20 0	25 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	22 0	22 0	26 0
	20 Backergunge	13 8	13 8	10 0	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	10 0	26 0	26 0	27 8
	21 Mymensing	13 0	13 0	12 12	...	...	...	20 0	21 0	22 12	24 0	24 0	28 0
	22 Sylhet	10 0	10 8	11 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	23 0	23 0	21 0	31 0	31 8	29 0
	Cachar	9 6	9 6	0 2	...	...	...	24 10	24 10	26 10	20 1	20 1	20 1
CHITTAGONG	24 Chittagong	10 0	9 0	14 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	21 0	21 0	22 0
	25 Cox's Bazar	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	18 0	22 0	24 0	27 0
	26 Tipperah	12 0	12 0	10 0	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	20 0	25 0	25 0	32 11
	27 Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 5	13 5	13 5	16 0	17 8	17 8
	Hill Tipperah	10 0	10 0	11 4	...	...	...	18 8	17 7	20 9	23 7	20 0	22 6
BEHAR.													
PATNA	28 Patna	15 0	15 0	24 0	25 8	25 11	31 4	16 0	16 8	18 11	17 0	17 0	21 0
	29 Gaya	14 0	14 0	16 0	21 0	22 0	32 0	11 8	12 0	12 0	16 0	14 0	18 0
	30 Shahabad	14 0	14 0	16 0	21 0	22 0	37 0	14 0	15 0	12 0	16 12	16 0	18 0
	31 Thibet	11 8	12 0	16 0	25 0	25 0	23 8	10 8	10 8	14 0	18 0	17 8	16 8
	32 Saran	14 0	14 0	16 0	24 0	24 0	28 0	13 8	12 8	14 0	18 0	18 0	18 0
	33 Champaran	14 0	15 0	19 0	32 0	32 0	28 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	19 0	19 0	17 0
BHAGALPORE	34 Mughayr	15 7	16 8	18 9	29 4	28 1	29 4	12 0	12 6	12 8	16 8	16 7	14 8
	35 Bhagalpore	16 2	15 2	16 8	25 4	...	25 4	15 2	15 2	15 2	18 0	17 11	18 16
	36 Purnea	16 0	14 0	10 5	26 0	26 0	31 0	16 0	15 0	18 0	17 0	18 0	20 0
	37 South Patna	14 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 8	16 0	17 8	16 8	20 0
ORISSA.													
ORISSA	38 Cuttack	17 0	21 0	16 12	...	...	...	21 0	23 10	15 13	31 8	30 8	21 0
	39 Puri	15 12	17 1	13 8	...	...	...	23 10	21 0	17 1	16 12	16 7	23 0
	40 Balasore	13 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	18 0	15 0	...	28 0	28 0	...
CHOTA NAAGPORE.													
South-West Frontier Agency.													
CHOTA NAAGPORE	41 Hazaribagh	12 0	12 8	14 12	...	...	30 12	10 0	10 0	11 8	13 0	14 0	16 12
	42 Jharkhand	14 0	14 0	12 0	...	...	32 0	18 0	14 0	20 0	18 0	17 0	23 0
	43 Singbhum	18 0	18 0	20 0	24 0	24 0	32 0	18 0	18 0	24 0	21 0	24 0	23 0
	44 Manbhum	12 0	12 0	16 0	...	...	24 0	14 0	15 8	14 0	18 0	18 0	19 0
ASAM AND ADJACENT HILLS.													
ASAM	45 Goalpara	17 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	14 0	13 0	18 0	20 0	20 0	20 0
	46 Kamrup	16 0	13 0	20 0	...	...	...	16 0	13 0	16 0	20 0	20 0	20 0
	47 Darrang	10 0	10 0	8 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	18 0	18 0	16 0	18 0
	48 Nowgong	18 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	19 0	12 11	13 0	18 0	18 0	18 0
	49 Sibsagar	13 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	8 11	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	12 0
	50 Lakhimpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	51 Naga Hills.	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	10 0	13 0	12 0	13 0	14 8
	52 Khasi and Jynteah Hills.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	53 Garo Hills.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* Returns not received.

Districts of Bengal on the 31st August 1873.

BY THE SERE OF 80 TOLANS.

BAJRA.			JOWAR.			GRAM.			RADI OR MURWA.			MAIZE OR INDIAN CORN.			SALT.			REMARKS.
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	
26 0	26 8	24 0	34 0	33 0	25 0	17 0	18 0	22 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	9 0	8 0	
...	17 4	18 8	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	9 0	8 10	
...	14 0	14 8	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 12	8 4	8 12	
...	19 0	20 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 8	8 8	
...	20 0	20 0	21 0	...	...	...	10 0	19 0	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	
...	20 0	19 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 10	8 12	8 12	
...	20 0	20 0	20 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 10	8 8	8 8	
...	20 0	21 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 8	8 0	8 0	
...	21 0	22 8	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 8	
...	18 12	18 12	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 12	6 12	7 8	
...	20 0	20 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	8 0	
...	18 12	21 4	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	...	7 4	8 4	...	
...	16 6	14 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 4	6 0	7 8	
...	16 0	15 0	19 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	8 0	
...	20 0	22 8	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 4	8 0	8 0	
...	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	20 0	22 0	20 0	4 0	4 0	4 0	
...	13 0	13 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	6 0	
...	20 0	20 0	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 8	8 8	8 14	
...	20 0	20 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	7 12	
...	8 4	8 4	8 0	
...	18 0	17 12	17 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	7 8	8 8	
...	16 0	17 4	16 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 8	8 0	9 2	
...	13 8	11 8	14 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 8	7 9	8 0	
...	16 0	14 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	7 0	
...	16 0	16 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	8 0	
...	16 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 8	8 4	9 0	
...	7 12	8 10	8 10	
...	11 4	11 4	11 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 2	7 2	8 4	
...	24 8	26 0	34 8	24 0	24 0	25 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	
...	16 8	18 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 0	7 8	7 8	
...	21 8	24 0	30 0	17 0	18 0	...	17 0	18 0	...	8 0	8 4	8 0	
27 0	28 0	...	27 0	28 0	...	22 0	21 0	22 8	...	...	...	22 0	...	...	7 8	7 4	7 4	
...	23 0	21 0	20 0	21 0	21 8	25 0	30 0	30 0	...	22 0	...	...	7 4	7 4	8 0	
...	26 0	27 0	23 0	...	...	...	22 0	21 0	...	7 0	6 8	7 0	
...	26 0	26 1	27 3	...	...	...	20 4	20 4	...	7 8	7 6	7 3	
...	20 8	...	...	21 0	23 6	25 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 14	7 14	7 14	
...	23 0	23 0	29 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 6	6 6	7 0	
28 0	27 0	35 0	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	19 0	...	...	...	27 0	27 0	31 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	
...	28 4	28 4	16 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 3	9 2	7 14	
...	21 0	23 6	14 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	9 4	8 8	
...	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	...	
...	15 0	16 0	15 11	21 0	23 0	27 0	17 0	21 0	25 0	6 12	6 12	7 0	
...	14 0	14 0	12 0	20 0	20 0	...	23 0	...	30 0	6 4	6 0	6 8	
...	16 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 8	5 8	6 0	
...	18 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 4	7 0	7 0	
...	14 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	7 0	8 0	
...	12 0	10 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	7 0	8 0	
...	8 0	8 0	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	
...	8 0	8 0	10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 0	6 8	7 0	
...	10 0	10 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	8 0	
...	8 0	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 0	4 8	5 0	

Published for general information.

R. KNIGHT,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather, State and Prospects of the Crops in the different Districts of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending the 6th September 1873.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sadler Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BENGAL.						
Western Districts.		1873.				
Burdwan Division.	1 Burdwan	Sept. 9th*	1.15	Weather cloudy and close. No rain in the south-east. Heavy rain in the west.	Aus paddy being cut. Prospects of amun paddy good, but more rain wanted.	Public health good in the north and west. Bad in the Sadler and Johnabad sub-division.
	2 Banerghata	" 6th	1.19	Showery	Generally good.	
	3 Beerbhoom	" 6th	1.64	Showery	The prospects of the crops throughout the district are generally good.	
	4 Midnapore	" 6th	0.93	Seasonable and much cooler.	Favorable. Aus crop, which is just ready for cutting, reported to be very good. It is about 1/4th of the whole crop in this district.	
	5 Hooghly	" 6th	1.50	Clear and cloudy, very little rain.	Rain much wanted in some parts for the amun crop, otherwise the crops are doing well.	
Central Districts.	Howrah	" 6th	2.26	There was rain more or less every day throughout the district.	Transplantation of amun paddy seedling is still going on in some places. The ryots have commenced reaping the aus rice crop and to cut jute.	
Patna Division.	6 24-Pargannahs	" 9th*	3.24	Weather close and showery with heavy rain on Saturday.	The jute is being cut, but the crop is not quite so good as that of the past two years; the aus is being cut at Baraset, Baranpore, and Boserhat. Transplantation of amun going on.	A good deal of ordinary fever prevails in the district.
	7 Rudder	" 6th	1.34	Seasonable; there has been a slight deficiency of rain till 4th and 5th instant.	The aus (which has been partly cut) is likely to give a fair out-turn on the whole. Amun dhan also generally promises well. Chillies, sugarcane, &c., are doing well.	
	8 Jessore	" 6th	2.08	Generally cloudy with seasonable showers.	The prospects of the rice crops continue promising.	
	9 Moorshedabad	" 6th	2.57	Bright sunny days with occasional showers of rain. Abundant rain on the last two days.	Aus harvest has commenced; amun dhan is still extremely backward for want of rain. A fair out-turn of jute is expected.	
	10 Dinagapore	" 6th	0.34	Very little rain has fallen, hot and steamy early in the week; the latter part cool and pleasant; there has apparently been heavy weather to south and east.	Rain much wanted in all parts of the district for the winter rice crops, which is certain to be a very short one.	
Rajshahi Division.	11 Maldah	" 8th	0.53	Cloudy and stormy with occasional drizzling almost daily.	The prospects of the crops are the same as last week.	
	12 Rajshahi	" 6th	1.59	There has been very moderate rain throughout the district during the week.	The prospects of the Ropa dhan continue to be very bad owing to the absence of rain. Amun and aus are in a better condition than Ropa dhan, but rain is very much needed for all crops. Aus being reaped, tool and tobacco are now being sown.	A few cases of small-pox have been reported from Focash, Barman, and Koushah stations. The fever near Nattore has almost entirely disappeared.
	13 Rangpore	" 6th	0.16	Hot and oppressive	The continued want of rain is affecting the crops injuriously; bad prospects in every direction.	

* Telegram of the 9th September received on the same day. Shows the rainfall during the seven days immediately preceding.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BENGAL.—(Contd.)						
<i>Central Districts.—(Contd.)</i>						
1873.						
RAJSHAHY DIVY.	14 Bograh	Sept. 6th	0.88	Weather much cooler; very little rain has fallen, much more is wanted.	Prospects of the annum crops not at all good. Transplantation continues. Most of the jute has been cut.	
	15 Pubna	" 6th	1.29	Weather close, with occasional little showers of rain.	The jute crop is reported to be about ten annas of that cut last year, and the prospects of the rice crops are not favorable.	
	16 Darjeeling	" 6th	3.20	Frequent heavy showers, thick mist, and very windy.	In the Terai the transplanting of the cold weather crops may be said to be completed. The early crops are being reaped. With the exception of the slight loss for the want of rain the crops in the hills and plains are prospering favorably.	
	17 Julpigoree	" 6th	6.91	Very regular rain; weather cool and pleasant.	Very favorable. Jute crop good. Blended dhan fair average crop. Weather all that could be desired for hymanth dhan.	Health of the district good.
COOCH BEHAR DIVISION.	Cooch Behar	" 6th	1.39	Showery	The season for planting out annum is nearly over. The prospects of the crop are good except in the south, where deficiency of rain has prevented the high lands being cultivated. Jute is being cut and is an average crop. Tobacco cultivation has begun.	
<i>Eastern Districts.</i>						
DACCA DIVISION.	18 Dacca	" 9th*	3.13	Weather rainy with occasional sunshine.	Prospects of crops good	Public health good. Rivers rising.
	19 Furreedpore	" 6th	2.41	Cloudy and rainy with sunshines at intervals.	There has been a sudden fall of water in the rivers. The annum paddy is still in a fair state.	
	20 Backergunge	" 6th	1.41	Rainy and damp with intervals of sunshine.	Good.	
	21 Mymensing	" 6th	0.77	Weather showery with high winds, very little rain in any part of the district.	Indifferent. The harvest will not be more than moderately good at best.	Outbreak of cattle disease reported in the north of the district.
CHITTAGONG DIVISION.	22 Sylhet	Aug. 30th	2.39	Very close	More rain wanted for the annum crop on high lands. Other crops promise well.	
	23 Cachar	" 30th	1.56	Hot and sultry with slight rain.	From want of rain during the last week the crops are in some degree suffering. Tea operations fair.	
	24 Chittagong	" 30th	1.35	Showery	Ans being cut, annum nearly all transplanted.	
	25 Noakhally	" 30th	7.9	Rainy and cloudy	The gathering of ans dhan and the trans-planting of annum dhan are not yet completed.	
	26 Tipperah	Sept. 6th	1.12	Hot and without wind till the last two days. Rainfall still scanty in the north.	At head quarters very seasonable weather for the crops, but the want of rain in Brahmanbarah is a serious matter, and unless heavy rain falls immediately the damage will be great.	
	27 Chittagong Hill Tracts	Aug. 30th	4.49	Heavy showers with hot sun alternating. The weather not unseasonable.	The annum paddy crop is in course of being gathered. The cotton crop is in flower. General agricultural prospects flourishing.	District fairly healthy.
	Hill Tipperah	" 30th	2.45	Heavy rain during the latter part of the week accompanied by thunder and lightning. Weather cloudy and very warm.	Paddy still being transplanted. Prospects good.	

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No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at standard station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	REMARKS.
BEHAR.		1873.				
28	Patna	Sept. 9th*	0.63	Weather clear and fine and does not show signs of more rain.	The small amount of rain which has fallen has done some good, inasmuch as it keeps the crops alive, but much more is wanted.	The number of persons has decreased in Beha, and the health of the people in the rest of the district is generally good.
29	Gya	" 6th	0.12	Fine and clear	Bladoi crops are being harvested and the prospects of paddy continue good.	
30	Shahabad	" 6th	0.12	Cloudy with strong east wind and showers. From present appearance rain may be expected.	Marwa being cut. Angkany rice promising; rain generally required.	Cholera disappearing.
31	Tirhoot	" 6th	0.37	Cloudy and easterly wind prevailing.	An average bladoi crop is anticipated throughout the district. There is still a want of rain for the rice crop which will suffer much if more and copious rain does not come down at once. In some parts of the north of the district the transplanting of dhau has not yet finished. The worst reports come from Madhubany sub-division, where prospects of rice harvest are looking gloomy.	Cholera still prevailing more than usual.
32	Saran	" 6th	0.09	Seasonable. Prevailing wind east.	In some of the factories manufacture of indigo (second cutting) has commenced. Partially in the high lands is being dried up for want of rain. More rain required for the crops.	Cholera decreasing
33	Champaran	" 6th	Nil	Hot and cloudy, easterly wind prevailing.	The prospects of the crop in general are fair, but more rain is required.	Cholera continues in the south of the district.
34	Monghyr	" 6th	2	Seasonable	The bladoi crop is being cut, though late it is quite up to the average. In the Juma sub-division, the crop is the best they have had for three years, and that of Begosari excellent. Indigo out-turn however is not good.	
35	Bhagalpore	" 9th*	2.55	Fine and cool, but little rain; easterly wind.	A great deal of rain still wanted for angkany rice crop, which is very backward and not half transplanted even yet.	General health good; but fever as usual at this season is appearing in the north of the Ganges.
36	Purneah	" 6th	0.71	Up to last night very hot and sunny.	The angkany, which has been transplanted, has been scorched up. Heavy rain on the 6th which may do good.	
37	Southal Pergannahs	" 6th	2.54	More rain wanted in the sub-divisions. About Doonka there is constant rain, sometimes heavy with heavy clouds everywhere.	Generally good. More rain wanted in Kojmehal, Goida, and Jantara. Mains said to be very heavy on the Doonka domain.	

* Telegram of the 9th September received on the same day. Shows the rainfall during the seven days immediately preceding.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Standard Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	REMARKS.
ORISSA.		1873.				
38	Cuttack	Sept. 9th*	3.30	Weather generally cool and cloudy with light rains.	Prospects of all crops good.	Public health good.
39	Pooree	Aug. 30th	1.82	Hot with moderate rain. Khondah rainfall ... 3.57	Weeding and transplanting were finished in the parganahs Kottahang, Bembel, Odhwa, Purbani and others. Transplanting is going on in the Satal fields of Kottahang, Sorai, and others. The young seed plants of various villages of parganahs Bahar, Chauri, Boud, Mahul and others, are suffering from want of water. No preparation for cultivation of kharif lands in Midah field of Purbani made for want of water. Rice is now thriving in Parganahs Sorai, Lardah, Kottahang, and others. All other crops and other crops are generally on a fair Khondah soil. In Odhah and other parts the crops are promising in some parts of Bampur, especially those places that are lying on the borders of Odhah and in the Midah field of Purbani and Mahul, are backward for lack of sufficient water.	
40	Balasore	Sept. 6th	3.07	Heavy rain ...	Very favorable.	
CHOTA NAGPORE.						
	South-West Frontier Agency.					
41	Hazareebaugh	" 6th	2.27	During the early part of the week the weather was very dry and sultry, stormy towards the latter end.	The crops are so far in a critical state, that if the rains do not early the rice crop, which was sown late, and some late sown, will suffer greatly. The rainfall has already exceeded the average annual rainfall. The kharif crop must be very good. The rice though backward in looking well.	
42	Lohardugga	" 6th	4.03	See enable	Prospects generally most favorable. The south crop is doing well, and other crops are growing well.	
43	Singbhum	Aug. 30th	0.22	Too rain to speak of during the week. Most of the days sunny and hot.	Very favorable, but the crops are now holding out rather too late.	Some show signs of distress. Only a few are late.
44	Manbhum	Sept. 6th	1.55	Showery and cool.	All crops on the ground now promise well. Transplanting operations have not been completed.	Below the district.
ASSAM AND ADJACENT HILLS.						
45	Goalpara	Aug. 30th	4.1	Whole week was very hot and sultry with occasional slight showers of rain. Atmosphere close and heavy.	No change in the state of crops & prospects; winter rice thriving and other crops doing well.	
46	Faursang	Sept. 8th†	2.06	The weather was cool and fine, occasionally very heavy rains.	Shade dhun, cotton, tea, and sugarcane crops thriving.	Public health good.
47	Darrang	Aug. 30th	0.21	Hot, frequent fogs in the mornings, little breeze.	Dhau planting checked owing to scarcity of rain. Tea plants and sugarcane suffering from some cause. Vegetation suffering from want of rain.	Fewer and fewer complaints prevalent.

* Telegram of the 9th September received on the same day. Shows the rainfall during the seven days immediately preceding.

† Telegram of the 8th September received on the 9th. Shows the rainfall during the seven days including the 8th.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	REMARKS.
ASSAM AND ADJACENT HILLS.—(Contd.)		1873.				
48	Nowgong	Aug. 30th	0.95	During the past week the weather generally has been close and oppressive, a change for the better since the 29th. Rainfall still very scanty.	Rain wanted for the rice crops. Tea operations doing fairly.	No fresh cases of cattle murrain reported. And no fresh cases of cholera.
49	Sohmaingor	" 30th	1.86	Fair sunny days with occasional showers at night.	Owing to want of rain the rice crop is suffering much. If good rain does not fall soon the crops in the subdivision of Jorhaut will be destroyed. Tea is also at a standstill for want of rain.	
50	Lockimpur	" 30th	0.92	The greater part of the week was unusually hot and oppressive. On Thursday evening a good deal of thunder, and lightning followed by rain.	Crops progressing satisfactorily; the rice is all out. Sudee rice all planted out.	Fever and bowel complaints exist to a slight extent all about the district.
51	Naga Hills	" 23rd	1.25	Clear and fine, pretty cool all over the district, and has been all that could be wished for on account of the crops.	All the crops are looking well, and a fair outturn is expected.	
52	Khasi & Jynteah Hills	" 30th	1.02	Rain has fallen heavily throughout the hills, and is seasonable.	The crops are doing well, and promise fair for a good harvest.	
53	Garo Hills	" 30th	0.45	The weather has been fine during the week, and rather hotter than usual.	Nothing much to remark about the crops, the warm weather is favorable to that part of the dihan crop which is backward. Near Duhie the planting out of cold weather crop is proceeding with vigor.	

Published for general information.

CALCUTTA, STATISTICAL DEPT.,
The 9th September 1873.R. KNIGHT,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Weekly Report of Rainfall compiled at the Meteorological Reporter's Office.

DIVISION.	DISTRICT.	STATION.	Rain from 27th to 30th Aug. 1873.	Rain from 24th to 26th Aug. 1873.	Rain from 1st JANUARY 1873.		REMARKS.
			Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Up to date.	
BENGAL.							
NORTH-WEST.	WEATHER DISTRICTS.				1873.		
	Burdwan	Burdwan	1.76	1.56	52.47	30th August	
		Cuttack	2.28	2.23	36.02	ditto.	
		Culina	4.24	1.19	31.00	ditto.	
		Good Road	0.40	0.20	41.40	ditto.	
		Bhowanigunge	2.35	1.49	38.31	ditto.	
	Bancoorah	Jalpaiguri	5.10	3.62	35.78	ditto.	
		Bancoorah	2.20	1.92	32.34	ditto.	
		Naogaon	2.61	1.70	18.72	ditto.	
		Midnapore	0.45	0.07	33.04	ditto.	
		Tumuck	1.51	Not rec.	33.02	2nd August.	
	Midnapore	Gurhatta	0.03	0.04	11.27	30th August.	
		Contai	{ Dy. Collr.'s Office .. Kao. Engr.'s Office ..	1.23 1.57	2.12 2.12	51.34 51.10	ditto.
	Hooghly	Hooghly	0.45	1.22	31.18	ditto.	
	Howrah	Howrah	1.23	1.63	37.45	ditto.	
		Howrah	1.50	2.03	38.72	ditto.	
	CENTRAL DISTRICTS.	Sunder Island	Sunder Island	0.60	0.70	34.73	ditto.
Cocanada			1.41	1.59	35.41	ditto.	
Alipore			1.09	2.38	35.25	ditto.	
Alipore Jail			2.42	2.28	37.00	ditto.	
Russellghat			Nil.	1.49	36.00	ditto.	
Barrow			1.00	1.38	32.07	ditto.	
Diamond Harbour			1.80	2.74	30.50	ditto.	
Barrow			1.11	1.75	41.14	ditto.	
Satkhari			2.80	1.97	30.26	ditto.	
Barrow			1.64	1.21	30.52	ditto.	
Nudda		Barrow	1.05	1.50	40.27	ditto.	
		Kashinagar	0.72	1.15	44.27	ditto.	
		Barrow	0.20	1.01	34.81	ditto.	
		Barrow	1.22	1.65	40.87	ditto.	
		Barrow	2.28	0.80	36.18	ditto.	
		Barrow	0.75	1.49	31.00	ditto.	
		Barrow	1.76	2.43	30.26	ditto.	
		Barrow	1.70	1.49	30.27	ditto.	
		Barrow	0.81	2.81	35.40	ditto.	
		Barrow	0.65	1.95	32.13	ditto.	
Jessore		Kishorend	2.33	2.34	38.33	ditto.	
		Jessore	2.91	1.51	47.01	ditto.	
		Barrow	0.70	1.55	38.50	ditto.	
		Masoorah	1.03	1.68	35.81	ditto.	
		Barrow	1.02	1.74	35.25	ditto.	
		Rampurhat	0.74	1.07	31.73	ditto.	
		City Moorshedabad	1.77	1.97	27.05	ditto.	
		Jessore	1.00	2.12	31.23	ditto.	
		Ajmeri	1.85	1.25	35.00	ditto.	
		Barrow	0.80	0.14	41.09	ditto.	
Dinapore	Dinapore	0.50	0.50	21.14	ditto.		
	Maldah	1.30	1.73	29.23	ditto.		
	Bowdich	1.65	0.01	37.41	ditto.		
	Nettore	2.47	4.05	41.00	ditto.		
	Nettore	4.06	Nil.	30.77	ditto.		
	Bhowanigunge	4.40	1.94	30.19	ditto.		
	Titalya	4.43	0.57	35.25	ditto.		
	Howrah	4.07	2.74	37.79	ditto.		
	Palna	0.23	0.40	30.65	ditto.		
	Barraclough	3.20	0.40	30.65	ditto.		
Cooch Behar.	Darjeeling	{ Telegraph Office .. Hospital ..	Not rec. 2.12	Not rec. 4.16	57.98 60.06	31st July. 30th August.	
	Jalpaiguri	Jalpaiguri	5.03	1.51	60.14	ditto.	
		Palna	5.11	1.03	55.70	ditto.	
		Palna	5.06	3.73	50.30	ditto.	
	Cooch Behar Tributary	Cooch Behar	10.70	0.50	105.00	ditto.	
Rampur Doon	Bara	13.18	6.18	143.23	ditto.		
EASTERN DISTRICTS.	Dacca	Barraclough	2.53	2.12	53.04	ditto.	
		Barraclough	3.54	2.27	53.88	ditto.	
		Barraclough	1.62	2.05	58.55	ditto.	
	Farrukpore	Manikganj	2.78	2.54	41.80	ditto.	
		Farrukpore	1.72	2.33	30.65	ditto.	
		Goulundo	0.70	2.53	35.66	ditto.	
	Buckergunge	Barraclough	0.17	2.31	50.74	ditto.	
		Barraclough	0.11	1.64	17.00	ditto.	
		Barraclough	1.20	2.91	53.79	ditto.	
		Barraclough	0.70	4.65	54.14	ditto.	
	Mymensing	Barraclough	4.07	4.00	51.53	ditto.	
		Mymensing	5.32	1.21	57.10	ditto.	
		Jamshilpore	3.25	0.18	42.48	ditto.	
	Sylhet	Attah	0.37	0.09	30.65	ditto.	
		Kishoreganj	5.32	1.51	56.83	ditto.	
	Cachar	Sylhet	10.18	2.28	103.15	ditto.	
Cachar		2.04	1.60	51.45	ditto.		
Hylakandy		3.13	Not rec.	67.70	30th August.		
CHITTAGONG.	Chittagong	Koyah	7.27	5.02	70.53	ditto.	
		Chittagong	1.50	1.60	68.70	ditto.	
		Chittagong Jail	1.23	1.50	70.54	ditto.	
	Noakhally	Cox's Bazar	Not rec.	1.10	100.02	Not rec. 19th to 23rd August	
		Noakhally	1.51	7.91	63.23	ditto.	
	Tipperah	Barraclough	2.50	8.01	67.01	ditto.	
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	Meachinchariah	1.41	1.41	48.88	ditto.	
Hill Tipperah	Rangamati Hill	3.02	4.49	68.01	ditto.		
	Hill Tipperah	0.06	2.46	48.70	ditto.		

DIVISION.	DISTRICT.	STATION.	Rain from	Rain from	RAIN FROM 1ST		REMARKS.
			17th to 23rd August 1878.	24th to 30th August 1878.	JANUARY 1878.		
			Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Up to date.	
BEHAR.							
PATNA.	Patna	Patna	0.19	0.83	22.05	30th August.	
		Belur	1.58	1.07	36.10	ditto.	
		Barh	1.15	0.85	31.64	ditto.	
		Barh	0.16	2.00	33.25	ditto.	
		Barh... { Jail { Cantonment	0.50	1.20	34.45	ditto.	
	Gya	Gya	0.13	0.60	31.78	ditto.	
		Nowadsh	2.50	0.44	31.16	ditto.	
		Arumabad	0.00	0.40	37.30	ditto.	
		Johnabad	0.22	0.40	34.72	ditto.	
		Arrah	1.00	0.81	33.25	ditto.	
	Munabad	Nasrabad	0.40	0.50	20.45	ditto.	
		Buxar	0.05	0.50	34.93	ditto.	
		Munabad	0.80	0.85	25.00	ditto.	
		Muzaffarpore	1.21	1.37	25.38	ditto.	
		Barh	1.34	1.70	34.91	ditto.	
	Tichoot	Hajipur	0.13	0.40	22.02	ditto.	
		Mudhobani	0.55	0.55	32.00	ditto.	
		Satna	1.30	0.60	37.00	ditto.	
		Tajpur	1.25	1.10	37.43	ditto.	
		Chhapra	0.00	1.25	32.78	ditto.	
Saran	Saran	0.55	0.70	31.15	ditto.		
	Motefur	2.50	0.40	40.28	ditto.		
	Barh	3.00	0.20	32.30	ditto.		
	Manchyr	1.30	3.30	31.62	ditto.		
	Barh	0.02	1.73	31.44	ditto.		
BHARH.	Bhagalpur	Bhagalpur	1.44	Nil.	33.00	ditto.	
		Bhagalpur	0.24	0.51	23.05	ditto.	
		Saran	1.55	0.50	22.01	ditto.	
		Mudhobani	3.00	4.05	31.24	ditto.	
		Barh	0.32	0.40	20.54	ditto.	
	Purneah	Kamrui	0.04	0.25	25.00	ditto.	
		Purneah	2.42	1.27	32.77	ditto.	
		Kishoreganj	2.15	0.55	34.28	ditto.	
		Arumabad	1.00	2.18	20.04	ditto.	
		Barh	0.05	1.32	37.05	ditto.	
	Sonthal Pergumna	Barh	0.50	1.20	30.57	ditto.	Not recorded 1st June to 8th July.
		Barh	0.70	Nil.	18.00	ditto.	From 15th June.
		Mudhobani	1.78	0.98	21.64	ditto.	
		Nya Daula	2.00	1.00	43.00	ditto.	
		Barh	1.70	Not rec.	27.73	23rd August.	
CHITRA.	Patna	Patna (Telegraph Office)	0.20	2.20	35.70	30th August.	
		Patna (Hospital)	0.02	2.05	30.07	ditto.	
		Patna	Nil.	1.00	30.51	ditto.	
		Patna	4.20	6.00	45.50	ditto.	
		Patna	0.38	2.00	28.00	ditto.	
	Purneah	Purneah	0.85	4.10	30.30	ditto.	
		Purneah	1.30	2.14	30.72	ditto.	
		Purneah	1.00	3.42	34.82	ditto.	
		Purneah	0.81	3.48	34.07	ditto.	
		Purneah	0.22	1.07	20.17	ditto.	From 1st April.
	Bhagalpur	Bhagalpur	0.53	3.07	40.07	ditto.	ditto.
		Bhagalpur	0.75	2.25	28.00	ditto.	ditto.
		Bhagalpur	0.70	1.05	21.20	ditto.	ditto.
		Bhagalpur	0.70	1.05	21.20	ditto.	ditto.
		Bhagalpur	0.70	1.05	21.20	ditto.	ditto.
CHOTA NAAGPORE.	SOUTH-WESTERN FRONTIER AGENCY.	Barh	Not rec.	Not rec.	35.00	2nd August.	
		Barh	Not rec.	Not rec.	35.00	2nd August.	
		Barh	Not rec.	Not rec.	35.00	2nd August.	
		Barh	Not rec.	Not rec.	35.00	2nd August.	
		Barh	Not rec.	Not rec.	35.00	2nd August.	
	Barh	Barh	0.05	1.58	45.02	30th August.	
		Barh	2.08	1.25	42.25	ditto.	
		Barh	0.50	2.05	45.25	ditto.	
		Barh	1.70	2.10	37.10	ditto.	
		Barh	3.41	1.30	34.00	ditto.	
	Barh	Barh	1.07	0.42	31.51	ditto.	
		Barh	0.18	0.77	27.15	ditto.	
		Barh	0.08	1.30	30.87	ditto.	
		Barh	0.08	1.30	30.87	ditto.	
		Barh	0.08	1.30	30.87	ditto.	
ASSAM & ADJACENT HILLS.	Gualparah	Gualparah	0.15	0.44	60.72	ditto.	
		Gualparah	0.10	Nil.	45.87	ditto.	
		Gualparah	0.05	2.00	42.85	ditto.	
		Gualparah	0.31	2.07	45.10	ditto.	
		Gualparah	0.03	Not rec.	38.94	23rd August.	
	Durrung	Durrung	1.20	ditto.	47.00	ditto.	
		Durrung	1.06	1.34	43.16	ditto.	
		Durrung	0.82	Not rec.	69.38	23rd August.	
		Durrung	0.70	ditto.	67.18	ditto.	
		Durrung	1.13	ditto.	47.68	ditto.	
	Naga Hills	Naga Hills	0.22	ditto.	43.90	ditto.	
		Naga Hills	0.42	ditto.	77.81	ditto.	
		Naga Hills	0.42	ditto.	82.05	ditto.	
		Naga Hills	0.17	ditto.	40.14	ditto.	
		Naga Hills	0.14	ditto.	50.51	10th August.	
	Khasi and Jaintia Hills.	Khasi and Jaintia Hills	0.14	ditto.	45.73	23rd August.	
		Khasi and Jaintia Hills	0.14	ditto.	60.97	ditto.	
		Khasi and Jaintia Hills	0.14	ditto.	90.73	ditto.	
		Khasi and Jaintia Hills	0.14	ditto.	74.60	30th August.	
		Khasi and Jaintia Hills	0.14	ditto.	74.60	30th August.	
Garo Hills	Barh	Nil.	Not rec.	28.71	23rd August.		
	Akyai	4.20	Not rec.	101.00	30th August.		

CALCUTTA,
The 6th September 1878.

H. F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Meteorological Telegraphic Report for the period 31st Aug. to 6th Sept. 1873.

STATION.	Date.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	Barometer corrected to sea level.	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. = 100.	WIND.		Rain.	Clouds.	Weather remarks.
					Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.			
CALCUTTA.	Aug. 31st	10	29.614	29.612	87.5	82.1	78	SSW	...	0.04	K, C	
	Sept. 1st	12	29.608	29.623	86.0	81.2	87	SE	...	0.13	...	n
		10	29.605	29.623	84.9	83.2	86	E by S	...	0.05	K	...
	2nd	10	29.618	29.626	86.7	83.1	88	SSSE	...	...	...	...
		10	29.612	29.609	84.5	81.2	84	SSSE	...	0.11	...	...
	3rd	10	29.630	29.648	86.5	82.5	85	SSSE	...	0.02	S, K	...
		10	29.630	29.648	86.3	82.5	81	SE	...	0.08	K, C	...
	4th	10	29.483	29.609	87.2	83.1	83	E by S	...	...	...	scuds.
		10	29.541	29.548	89.2	82.0	80	SSSE	...	...	K	...
	5th	10	29.510	29.458	84.3	82.0	80	SE	...	0.11	...	...
		10	29.650	29.673	86.8	82.0	81	SSSE	...	...	K	...
	6th	10	29.417	29.465	82.0	80.5	83	S	...	0.01	...	...
10		29.413	29.441	78.4	77.3	80	Shy W	...	0.14	...	...
SAGOR ISLAND.	Aug. 31st	10	29.601	29.608	79.5	79.0	87	SSSE	...	1.25	...	...
		10	29.610	29.618	88	83	80	SE	4.7	0.20	N	b, v, n
	Sept. 1st	10	29.520	29.542	86	84	73	SE	5.8	...	N	b, n
		10	29.531	29.597	86	83	78	E	2.9	0.30	N	b, n
	2nd	10	29.616	29.622	88	82	83	SSSE	13.9	...	N	b, n
		10	29.621	29.630	88	81	80	SSSE	6.8	0.10	N	b, p, v, n
	3rd	10	29.620	29.632	87	82	79	SSSE	13.3	...	N	b, v, n
		10	29.614	29.620	86	80	75	S	0.8	...	N	b, n
	4th	10	29.483	29.489	87	83	78	SSSE	7.4	...	N	b, n, scuds.
		10	29.510	29.525	88	83	87	E	4.9	0.70	N	p, v, n, scuds.
	5th	10	29.448	29.153	81	81	87	SW	13.1	0.10	N	b, n
		10	29.554	29.562	86	82	87	W	4.9	0.20	N	b, v, n
CENTAURUS.	Aug. 31st	10	29.478	29.481	82	79	87	SW	13.1	0.20	N	b, v, n
		10	29.423	29.420	81	79	81	SW	21.3	1.70	N	b, p, v, n
	Sept. 1st	10	29.543	29.549	84	80	83	SSW	21.8	0.30	N	b, p, v, n
		10	29.615	29.727	87	81	76	SE	4.2	...	K	b, v, n
	2nd	10	29.514	29.604	86	80	75	SW	6.4	...	KS	b, v, n
		10	29.603	29.695	84	79	79	KNE	2.6	...	CK, KS	b, v, n
	3rd	10	29.524	29.617	82	81	85	SW	3.0	0.80	N	b, v, n
		10	29.600	29.782	86	79	72	SE	5.2	0.10	CK	b, v, n
	4th	10	29.564	29.680	85	79	75	S	7.1	...	CK, C	b, v, n
		10	29.683	29.775	84	79	70	SE	5.0	...	K, KS	...
	5th	10	29.531	29.631	86	80	75	SSSE	13.4	...	K, KS, C	...
		10	29.421	29.713	86	80	75	SE	7.0	...	K	b, v, n
MADRAS.	Aug. 31st	10	29.512	29.601	85	80	79	SSW	11.5	...	CK, KS	b, v, n
		10	29.621	29.713	85	80	79	SE	8.2	...	K, KS	b, v, n
	Sept. 1st	10	29.529	29.631	85	78	71	SSSE	15.0	...	K, CK, KS	...
		10	29.781	29.780	79	74	91	SE	8.8	0.30	N	b, v, n
	2nd	10	29.618	29.731	82	78	82	SSSE	12.3	...	KS, CK	...
		10	29.620	29.650	80	75	47	W	14	...	...	...
	3rd	10	29.612	29.679	85	75	36	W by N	13	...	...	...
		10	29.700	29.820	80	75	47	W	11	...	...	...
	4th	10	29.657	29.687	80	75	50	NNW	9	...	...	...
		10	29.773	29.803	80	75	78	W by N	6	0.57	...	...
	5th	10	29.650	29.680	80	77	56	W by S	3	...	...	...
		10	29.778	29.788	85	75	80	WSW	10	...	...	cloudy.
6th	10	29.615	29.675	80	75	50	SW by W	0	...	...	cloudy.	
	10	29.707	29.827	85	75	60	WSW	12	...	...	...
COCHIN.	Aug. 31st	10	29.612	29.672	83	78	43	SW	13	...	...	...
		10	29.780	29.810	89	75	49	W by S	13	...	...	...
	Sept. 1st	10	29.657	29.687	80	77	30	W	9	...	...	...
		10	29.795	29.825	89	74	45	W by E	13	...	...	...
	2nd	10	29.672	29.712	83	74	37	SW by W	10	...	...	...
		10	29.625	29.647	87	80	72	WNW	2.2	...	CK, C	...
	3rd	10	29.135	29.517	85	80	79	SW	1.3	...	K, N	...
		10	29.407	29.579	87	80	72	SE	0.9	...	CK, C	...
	4th	10	29.421	29.540	81	78	80	SSSE	2.9	...	CK, K, N	...
		10	29.510	29.592	85	80	79	NNE	1.4	0.40	CK, K, C	...
	5th	10	29.405	29.487	80	81	79	N	4.1	...	K, N, C	...
		10	29.507	29.489	86	80	76	NW	0.8	...	K, N, C	...
6th	10	29.410	29.492	83	80	87	NE	0.5	...	K, N	...	
	10	29.409	29.578	78	76	80	SW	3.4	0.00	N	...	
AYRER.	Aug. 31st	10	29.503	29.444	82	76	82	WSW	6.2	...	CK, N, C	...
		10	29.505	29.378	82	79	87	WSW	1.4	0.20	N, C	...
	Sept. 1st	10	29.110	29.423	70	77	90	S	3.0	...	N	...
		10	29.413	29.405	84	79	79	SW	3.8	0.70	N, C	...
	2nd	10	29.453	29.553	83	77	76	SW	1.3	...	N, C	...
		10	29.722	29.733	89	80	73	S	3.8	0.10	...	b
	3rd	10	29.595	29.617	82	79	87	S	5.1	0.10	...	b
		10	29.679	29.683	85	80	74	SSSE	3.7	0.29	...	b
	4th	10	29.688	29.610	82	79	87	SSSE	7.1	...	...	b
		10	29.747	29.769	82	79	87	SE	4.9	0.10	...	b
	5th	10	29.645	29.600	81	80	87	SE	5.3	...	...	b
		10	29.773	29.790	78	74	80	NW	4.3	1.40	...	b, g
6th	10	29.640	29.662	81	79	86	S	2.6	...	...	b, g	
	10	29.725	29.747	83	79	87	SE	2.9	0.80	...	b, g	
7th	10	29.619	29.685	80	77	86	SSW	7.3	...	...	b, g	
	10	29.753	29.776	79	78	85	S	4.0	4.30	...	...
8th	10	29.680	29.682	81	80	86	S	4.4	0.50	...	...
	10	29.811	29.821	85	81	79	S	4.2	0.90	...	...
9th	10	29.739	29.763	84	81	87	ENE	6.0	...	...	...

* Velocity of wind in miles per hour.

CALCUTTA.
The 6th September 1873.H. F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Bengal.

Mean Pressures and Temperatures of the preceding Table reduced to Sea-level, with anemometric results and observations of sky serenity.

STATIONS.	Mean barometric pressures reduced to sea-level.	Mean temperature reduced to sea-level.	WIND.										Percentage and Resultant.	Mean velocity daily.	Mean serenity.
			North.	North-East.	East.	South-East.	South.	South-West.	West.	North-West.	Calms.				
Port Blair	29.836	81.0	...	...	1	2	4	55	...	...	...	92 S, 33 W	338.5	420
Madras	29.730	80.7	1	...	1	4	2	10	31	...	...	60 S, 70 W	300.8	...
Vizagapatam	29.607	81.1	2	...	1	...	2	30	52	...	...	67 S, 80 W	135.2	387
Akyab	29.614	79.8	2	...	...	17	57	25	4	...	...	71 S, 0 W	60.5	123
Paloe Point	29.613	83.2	1	...	...	3	...	42	62	...	4	78 S, 77 W	...	...
Cuttack	29.614	82.7	1	...	1	4	8	51	33	1	20	67 S, 58 W	80.1	289	
Pangor Island	29.605	84.3	1	...	5	6	4	23	51	...	...	62 S, 43 W	313.8	1.99
Chittagong	29.600	81.5	3	...	33	25	13	9	1	1	6	68 S, 61 E	180.9	2.35	
Calcutta	29.505	83.5	...	...	9	17	45	41	4	1	...	67 S, 6 W	130.7	...
Jamora	29.489	82.5	...	1	3	23	22	11	...	1	...	72 S, 11 E	113.8	1.80	
Dacca	29.534	83.6	1	...	9	50	17	14	...	...	1	60 S, 21 E	180.0	1.23
Sdchar	29.618	83.1	8	12	20	11	10	10	21	12	30	8, 67 W	60.2	1.31	
Hazarebaugh	29.509	82.0	2	...	11	20	3	6	22	20	...	10 N, 83 W	232.8	1.96	
Berhampore	29.191	85.0	...	8	24	43	17	10	...	1	11	50 S, 45 E	150.3	2.31	
Oys	Not recd.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Patna	29.489	85.0	1	8	34	9	4	3	1	...	2	72 S, 83 E	...	2.33	
Moughyr	29.485	85.1	4	18	63	17	3	8	4	2	4	31 S, 86 E	60.8	1.23	
Darjeeling	...	...	3	13	29	11	13	13	31	1	6	15 S, 14 E	...	1.31
Uowalparah	29.549	82.1	2	9	22	10	8	6	4	1	...	46 S, 69 E	121.4	0.93	
Benares	29.489	80.5	3	7	32	2	2	17	31	2	25	71 S, 45 W	90.6	2.32	
Moorkhee	29.448	87.5	...	3	...	13	4	12	...	4	56	35 S, 29 W	87.4	3.35	

NOTE.

Barometric Pressure.—The pressures in column 2 of the above table for all stations below 500 feet are reduced from those given in column 3 of the table on the previous page by adding the weight of a column of air of the temperatures given in column 17. For stations above 500 feet elevation the reduction is made by Dippe's tables as given in Guyot's "Meteorological and Physical Tables." The temperatures at the sea-level are taken from column 3 of the above table.

Temperature.—The temperatures in column 3 are reduced from those in column 17 on the preceding page by adding 1° Fahrenheit for every 450 feet.

Wind Resultant.—The resultant wind direction and its comparative predominance are calculated from the whole number of wind observations recorded during the month. The relative predominance in the direction of the resultant is given as a percentage of the whole number of observations. The direction is computed in the usual way by Lambert's formula.

Serenity.—This column gives the average proportion of unclouded sky; a cloudless sky being indicated by 10, and one completely overcast by 0.

The above being all comparable, afford the data for constructing a meteorological chart for the month, which shall show the isoharic and isothermal lines and the resultant wind directions, which last may be represented by arrows of varying length, proportioned to the prevalence of the wind. To these may be added the rainfall from the previous tables.

CALCUTTA,
The 8th September 1873.

H. F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office,
Calcutta, from 1st to 7th September 1873.

Month.	Date.	Mean reduced barometer.	THERMOMETER.			Mean dry bulb.	Mean wet bulb.	Computed mean dew-point.	Mean degree of humidity.	WIND.			Rain.	Moon's phases.	GENERAL REMARKS.
			Highest reading.	Lowest reading.	Max. solar radiation.					Prevailing direction.	Max. pressure.	Daily velocity.			
		Inches.	°	°		°	°	°			in	Miles.	In.		
Sept. ...	1st	30.604	80.3	81.0	130.0	85.9	81.4	79.0	0.87	S S E & S S W	1.0	138.4	0.00	...	Cirri and cumuli. Light-ning on 5. W. at mid-night. Slight rain at 1½ and 4 P.M.
	2nd	30.580	88.0	80.0	130.5	83.0	80.0	78.9	98	E S E & S S E	1.8	188.2	0.10	...	Clouds of various kinds light rain after inter vals.
	3rd	30.667	89.5	79.5	143.0	84.0	81.1	79.1	90	E S E & S S E	...	187.0	...	...	Cirri and cumuli. Driz-zled at 12½ A.M., 3½ and 11½ P.M.
	4th	30.604	89.0	80.0	123.0	83.4	81.3	79.8	89	S E & S	...	196.0	0.11	...	Sends & cumuli. Thun-der at 1½ & 3 P.M. Slight rain at 1½ A.M., 1½, 3, 5 & 7 P.M.
	5th	30.517	89.0	80.0	120.0	82.7	80.5	78.0	80	S & E S E	0.8	190.7	0.70	...	Cirri cumuloni & over-cast. Thunder between 2 & 3 P.M. Rain from 2½ to 3½, at 5 & 11 P.M.
	6th	30.581	80.5	78.6	...	78.0	77.7	77.1	90	S S W & S by W	1.8	182.7	2.32	...	Overcast. Rain nearly the whole day.
	7th	30.600	86.8	78.0	134.0	82.0	79.8	77.9	98	S by W & S W	...	179.0	0.10	○	Overcast, cumuli & clear. Thunder from 1 to 3 A.M. Slight rain from mid-night to 3 at 7½ & 9 A.M.

The mean barometer, as likewise the dry and wet bulb thermometer means, are derived from the twenty-four hourly observations made during the day.

The dew-point is computed with the Greenwich constants. The figures in column 10 represent the humidity of the air, the complete saturation of which being taken at unity. The receiver of the lower rain gauge is 1½ feet, and that of the anemometer 70 feet 10 inches above the level of the ground. The velocity of wind, as indicated by Robinson's anemometer, is registered from noon to noon.

The extreme variation of temperature during the past seven days	...	13.0
The max. temperature during the past seven days	...	89.5
The max. temperature during the corresponding period of the past year	...	88.0
The mean humidity during the past seven days	...	0.89
The mean humidity during the corresponding period of the past year	...	0.87
		Inches.
The total fall of rain from 1st to 7th	(by lower rain gauge	3.51
	(by anemometer gauge	3.44
Ditto ditto ditto,	average of nineteen previous years	2.50
Ditto ditto between the 1st January and the 7th September	...	30.60
Ditto ditto ditto,	average of nineteen previous years	54.18

GOPENDATH SEN,
In charge of the Observatory.

The 9th September 1873.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—MAIN LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 26th August 1873, on 1,380 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.			MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.			Total traffic receipts.
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.		
		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Str.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	98,988	1,06,802 8 0	10,048 17 11	5,20,771 0	2,28,500 11 0	20,401 8 1	30,338 4 0
Or per mile of railway ... ..	.....	86 10 3	7 17 0	.....	174 9 10	18 0 3	28 17 2
For previous 7 weeks of half-year ...	6,76,776	8,17,022 8 9	74,982 12 9	32,63,832 20	14,65,585 15 8	1,56,179 14 3	211,161 7 0
Total for 8 weeks	7,75,664	9,27,594 14 9	85,029 10 3	37,84,655 20	17,00,004 13 4	1,54,607 0 4	241,898 11 8
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	92,913	1,07,618 15 11	9,693 8 2	3,50,106 20	1,00,593 14 2	15,540 2 2	23,429 10 4
Per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year ... ..	.....	84 9 8	7 14 5	.....	132 7 11	13 8 17	19 17 4
Total to corresponding date of previous year	7,46,042	8,61,634 8 2	79,501 9 17	33,32,591 0	16,99,948 10 7	1,50,819 9 3	2,24,920 19 2

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—JUBBULPORE LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 23rd August 1873, on 223½ miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Str.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	3,146	9,084 2 0	741 8 3	34,773 0	11,515 1 8	3,055 11 0	1,790 19 2
Or per mile of railway ... ..	.....	40 3 0	3 0 4	.....	51 8 4	4 14 6	8 8 10
For previous 7 weeks of half-year ...	26,106	60,473 4 9	5,213 7 11	2,00,696 0	64,822 13 6	5,943 1 11	11,135 9 7
Total for 8 weeks	29,252	64,941 6 9	5,954 15 11	2,44,469 0	76,337 15 0	6,997 12 11	12,925 8 10
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	3,767	7,094 1 2	722 17 7	21,637 30	6,406 5 1	667 2 1	1,300 2 3
Per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year ... ..	.....	31 12 4	3 5 7	.....	28 10 8	2 12 7	6 18 2
Total to corresponding date of previous year	30,968	68,365 3 10	6,365 17 11	2,28,205 30	61,903 1 2	6,670 12 10	11,939 11 9

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 23rd August 1873, on 156½ miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Str.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	29,336	14,942 0 0	1,062 2 4	1,33,018 20	54,118 4 17	5,144 8 7	6,096 4 4
Or per mile of railway	187	104 3 1	6 18 4	862 0	348 8 4	33 17 5	42 15 8
For previous 7 weeks of half-year ...	2,07,401	1,29,240 7 0	11,847 0 8	6,00,570 27	1,76,237 0 11	16,166 1 2	28,091 1 10
Total for 8 weeks	2,36,746	1,46,172 14 3	12,909 3 6	8,01,590 7	2,32,355 5 10	21,329 4 9	34,888 8 3
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	24,803	14,292 3 0	1,301 17 5	1,76,450 3	44,821 2 9	4,112 7 3	5,414 4 3
Per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year	158	90 12 0	8 6 4	1,121 0	290 10 4	26 5 7	34 11 11
Total to corresponding date of previous year	2,52,207	1,52,579 13 10	11,508 19 8	11,32,178 34	3,77,802 15 3	35,473 10 4	56,888 10 2



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1873.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.

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Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

[Continued from Gazette of 10th September 1873.]

Saturday, the 6th September 1873.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *Presiding*,
 THE HON'BLE G. C. PAUL, *Acting Advocate-General*,
 THE HON'BLE V. H. SCHALCH,
 THE HON'BLE LORD ULICK BROWNE,
 THE HON'BLE C. E. BERNARD,
 THE HON'BLE MOULVIE ABDUL LUTEEF, KHAN BAHADOOR,
 THE HON'BLE T. M. ROBINSON,
 THE HON'BLE RAJAH JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE, BAHADOOR,
 and
 THE HON'BLE BAGO DIGUMBER MITTER.

EMBANKMENTS AND WATERCOURSES.

THE HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH moved, that the Bill to amend the law relating to Embankments and Watercourses be further considered in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill. When this Bill was last before the Council

he had expressed a hope that when it was next brought forward, it would be merely for the purpose of being passed. But during the interval that had elapsed, it had been thought expedient carefully to look over the provisions of the Bill with a view to making any amendments that might be brought to notice. The result had been that he had submitted to the Council a paper of amendments which he intended to propose. If the Council determined to take the Bill into consideration, he would then be able to state the reasons which induced him to propose these amendments.

The HON'BLE BABOO DIGUMBER MITTER said that in his humble opinion the amendments proposed to be moved by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill were not such as could be conveniently and properly considered by the Council. The amendments were too numerous to be considered in this way, and they seemed to him to introduce a radical change in the rules of procedure as well as to modify the Bill in other respects. It would be much more convenient that the Bill be re-committed in order to the consideration of the amendments of which notice had been given.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said, perhaps it would be most convenient that he should state the course the Government proposed to take in regard to this Bill. The Hon'ble Member on the right had alluded to the changes proposed by the amendments, of which notice had been given, as radical changes. No doubt they were very bulky amendments, and in one respect the change proposed was a radical change, inasmuch as it changed the initiative from the Public Works Department to the Civil Department. The radical change was confined to that one change. His Honor was also inclined to hope that the change—a considerable change—which the Government thought it right to make, was one which would make the Bill more palatable, if not more acceptable, to the Hon'ble Member and the other Hon'ble Member who sat near to him. The Council were now near the end of the Session, and the course suggested by the Hon'ble Member would not be convenient. We were now nearly come to the long vacation; we were about to disperse to some distance, and we should find it difficult to get together an efficient Committee at this season. The changes proposed had been very carefully considered, although His Honor did not think they amounted to any great change. What we proposed was that if the amendments, or some or any of the amendments, were adopted, the Bill would be immediately reprinted with the amendments made that day; and at our next meeting that day week, the Members would have an opportunity of moving any further amendments of which they might give notice. After that, during the long vacation, further proceedings with regard to the Bill would be suspended. A further opportunity would then be given of carefully considering the revised and re-amended Bill. Hon'ble Members would then again be able to bring forward any amendments which in the course of that period they might digest. This was the course proposed, and he hoped the Hon'ble Member would think it was at least as convenient a course as that suggested by him.

THE HON'BLE BABOO DIGUMBER MITTER observed that after the explanation which had been offered, he would withdraw the amendment which he had intended to move. His impression was that at the next meeting it was the intention to move the passing of the Bill.

The motion was then agreed to.

The HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH said that in bringing these amendments before the Council, he wished to point out that they were not so much matter of detail, but were, in a great measure, matter of principle. This Bill had been twice if not thrice re-committed, and it would be a pity to have recourse again to that proceeding. The amendments which he had proposed might be divided into amendments of four classes. The most important was the substitution of Parts II, III, and IV, as printed in the notice of amendments, for Parts II, III, and IV, as they stood in the Bill. They were, in fact, word for word exactly the same as they stood in the Bill, with the exception that where the word "Engineer" stood we proposed to substitute the word "Collector." The reason of this proposal was twofold. First it had been suggested in some quarters, and amongst others by the British Indian Association, who represented in a great measure the zemindars, that the Bill placed too great power in the hands of the Engineer. MR. SCHALCH could not say he fully concurred with that objection, because it would be found that no power could be conferred on

the Engineer until complete publication had been given to the measure proposed to be undertaken, until all parties interested had been allowed an opportunity of appearing and stating their objections, and until those objections had been disposed of upon a judicial enquiry; and when even that was done, the whole of these orders were open not only to appeal but also to revision, right up to the Government of Bengal. He thought therefore the Bill might well stand as it was.

But it was supposed that if the Collector was substituted for the Engineer there would be greater responsibility thrown upon him; he would be more careful how he conducted his proceedings, and would not be led away by professional feeling, as he was likely to be if the Engineer had the initiating power. It had therefore been suggested that it was better to give the Collector the initiative, and to vest the powers in him; and then, as far as the purely professional work was concerned, it would be exercised by the officers under him, but under his responsibility.

Another reason was that the position of the Executive Engineer as he formerly existed, had been changed: he was now the District Engineer and was more directly subordinate to the Collector than the Executive Engineer was.

These were the reasons which suggested the substitution of the Collector for the Engineer in Parts II, III, and IV. Part II was taken word for word from the Sections of the Bill as it now stood, somewhat transposed and rearranged. So also was Part III; and Part IV was also the same, with the exception that whilst we retained the more important powers in the hands of the Collector, we gave to the Engineer such powers as merely referred to the making of sluices and other subsidiary works.

It would then be seen that there was no reason for an enquiry into details: the alterations proposed involved only the principle of substituting the Collector for the Engineer. The amendments did not make any change except such as the Secretary would be empowered to make in the way of drafting. If therefore the Council were pleased to proceed at once with the consideration of the Bill, the Bill would in due course be printed and taken up again at the next meeting of the Council, so as to afford any Member who might desire it, an opportunity of proposing further amendments.

In section 3, the interpretation clause, the HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH moved the following amendments:—

To add to the definition of "embankments," the words "and also all buildings intended for purposes of inspection and supervision;" the reason for the addition of these words being to include the bungalows of Engineers and other such buildings within the definition.

To substitute the following for the definition of "Engineer:" "The Engineer means the District Engineer or any Engineer specially appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to perform the functions of an Engineer under this Act." In regard to this amendment, MR. SCHALCH said that it was necessary to alter the definition to meet the altered position of the former Executive Engineer. In place of the former Executive Engineer, there would now be the District Engineer; and the latter part of the proposed amendment was necessary to meet the case of long lines of embankment for the supervision of which a special Engineer would be necessary.

The motions were severally agreed to.

THE HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH next moved the substitution of the following for Parts II, III, and IV, as they stood in the Bill. He had nothing further to say in explanation of this motion, except that the only question involved was whether the Collector should be substituted for the Engineer throughout these parts.

"PART II.

Powers of Collector and procedure thereon.

Powers of Collector.

4. Under the conditions and in the manner hereinafter provided—

Clause 1.—The Collector may cause any embankment which connects public embankments, or farms, by junction with them, part of a line of embankments, or any embankment or watercourse which is necessary for the protection or drainage of the neighbouring country, to be taken charge of and maintained by the officers of Government.

Power to take charge of embankments.

Clause 2.—The Collector may cause to be removed or altered any embankment which endangers the stability of a public embankment, or any obstruction of any kind which interferes with the general drainage of any tract of land.

Power to remove embankments and obstructions.

Clause 3.—The Collector may, when necessary, change the line of, or lengthen any, public embankment; or make a new embankment in the place of or renew any public embankment; or make an embankment in any place in which he may deem such embankment required for the protection of any lands, or for the improvement of any watercourse; or make a sluice in any public embankment.

Power to change line of embankment.

Clause 4.—The Collector may construct any sluice or watercourse, or effect any alteration in any public watercourse, when such construction or alteration may be required for the improvement of the health, or for the protection of any village or cultivable land.

Power to improve drainage.

Clause 5.—The Collector may call upon the person in charge of any road which interferes with the drainage of any tract of land to alter such road, or to construct any watercourse under or through such road. In the event of such person failing to comply with such requisition in such manner and within such time as the Collector shall prescribe, the said Collector may cause the road to be altered, or a watercourse to be constructed. The expenses of such alteration or construction shall be borne by the person in charge of the said road.

Power to alter roads and construct watercourses.

Clause 6.—If any landholder, farmer, or cultivator be desirous of having a sluice made in any public embankment for the purpose of drainage or irrigation he shall make an application in writing to the Collector of the district in which such embankment is situate. The application shall contain such particulars of the land to be drained or irrigated as may enable the Collector to judge of the advantage which may be derived from the work.

Applications for sluices to be made to Collector.

Clause 7.—Whenever any person is desirous that any new embankment be erected, or that any new watercourse be made, or that any watercourse be obstructed or diverted, if such work is likely to interfere with, counteract, or impede any public embankment or any public watercourse, he shall apply to the Collector, and at the time of making such application shall deposit with him a statement of the proposed work.

Application for new embankment or drainage to be made to Collector.

5. When it shall appear expedient to the Collector that any of the works specified in the last preceding section should be executed, he shall cause to be prepared plans, specifications, and estimates of the proposed works, together with a copy of the survey map showing the boundaries of the various estates likely to be affected by the said works, and he shall cause a proclamation to be issued giving notice of his intention to cause such works to be executed. Such proclamation shall be in the form and state the particulars mentioned in schedule (A) annexed to this Act; and there shall be appended thereto a copy of the plans, specifications, and estimates of the proposed works, together with a copy of the survey map as aforesaid. The Collector shall not commence any of such works until final order made in respect thereto under the provisions of sections 8, 65, and 66 of this Act.

Procedure.

6. Every such proclamation shall be published by affixing the same at the cutcherry of the Collector, and in the manner provided in the third clause of section 62.

Publication of proclamation.

7. Every such proclamation shall be published not less than thirty days before the day appointed for hearing the persons interested.

Proclamation to be published for thirty days.

8. The Collector shall, on the day appointed for the hearing, or on any subsequent day to which the hearing shall be adjourned, hear the objections of any persons who may appear, and, after recording any evidence, which they may adduce, shall pass an order in regard to the execution of the proposed works. Notice of such order shall be served on such persons as may have appeared in pursuance of the proclamation.

Hearing of objections to works.

9. If the lands, which are likely to be affected by any such proposed works, are situated within the limits of different districts, the Collector of any district within which any portion of such lands is situated, shall apply to the Commissioner of the division for authority to proceed in such matter; and the Commissioner of the division, if all the lands are situated within the division, may give authority to such Collector or to any other Collector within whose district any portion of such lands is situated to proceed in respect of all the lands likely to be affected by such works.

Authority to take proceedings where lands likely to be affected by the works are in different districts.

If the districts within which the lands likely to be affected by any such works are situated, are subject to the Commissioners of different divisions, the Collector shall apply to the Commissioner of the division within which his district is situated, and such Commissioner may, with the concurrence of the Commissioner to whom the other district is subject, give authority to proceed to such matter.

or different divisions.

PART III.

Procedure in cases of imminent danger to life or property.

10. Whenever the Collector shall be of opinion that the proceedings commenced by notice under sections 5 to 8 of this Act would cause delay in the exercise of any of the powers conferred upon him by clauses 2, 3, and 4 of section 4 likely to be attended with grave and imminent danger to life or property, it shall be lawful for him forthwith to commence to exercise such powers. Provided that he shall forthwith cause to be prepared the plans, specifications, and estimates of the proposed works, together with a copy of the survey map as provided in Section 5, and shall cause a proclamation to be issued as provided in that section giving notice that the work mentioned therein has already been commenced, and thereupon such proceedings and inquiries shall be had as in by Part II of this Act are directed.

11. Whenever any land, or earth from any land, the property of any person, is required for purposes of any works commenced in pursuance of the provisions of the last preceding section, or for the purposes of section 17 in cases where the Collector shall be of opinion that proceedings for the acquisition of such land, according to the provisions hereinafter contained in section 30, would cause delay as aforesaid, the Collector shall cause a proclamation to be issued in form in Schedule (B) annexed to this Act, giving notice thereof at convenient places in the locality in which such land is situated, and he may at the same time take possession of the same for the said purposes.

12. The Collector shall ascertain and record the nature and estimated value of the crops and trees (if any) standing on such land and shall offer adequate compensation to the persons interested. If such offer is not accepted, the value of such crops and trees shall be allowed for in awarding compensation for the land under the provisions of section 34.

13. The Collector may depute to the Engineer the powers described in sections 10, 11, and 12, subject to his own general orders, and in that case when the Collector is not present the Engineer may, if he shall be of opinion, that delay for the purpose of obtaining the orders of the Collector would be attended with grave and imminent danger to life and property, exercise the powers conferred on him by the Collector.

14. Whenever, upon an inquiry had under the provisions of this Part, it has been determined in the final order to be passed on such inquiry that anything done by the Collector or by the Engineer under the last preceding section was necessary, the land or the embankments or drainage shall, so far as any alteration thereof shall appear to be necessary, be at the expense of the Government restored as nearly as possible to the state in which they were when the Collector commenced to act under the provisions of this Part; and any person who shall have sustained loss, damage, or injury by the execution of such works shall receive compensation from the Government to be assessed according to the provisions contained in Part V of this Act.

Section 9 to apply to proceedings under this Part. 15. The provisions of section 9 shall be applicable to proceedings taken under this Part.

PART IV.

Powers of Engineer.

16. The power conferred on the Engineer under this Part shall be exercised subject to the general control and orders of the Collector.

17. The Engineer may make any repairs in, and may do all acts necessary and proper for the maintenance of any public embankment, public watercourse, or other work executed or taken charge of under the provisions of this Act, or of any of the Acts repealed by this Act.

18. The Engineer may call upon the manager or other person in charge of any railroad which interferes with the drainage of any tract of land, to alter such railroads or to construct any watercourse under or through such railroad. In the event of such person failing to comply with such requisition in such manner and within such time as the Engineer shall prescribe, the Engineer may thereupon, with the previous sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor, cause the said railroad to be altered, or a watercourse to be constructed in such manner as the Lieutenant-Governor shall direct. The expenses of such alteration or construction shall be borne by the said manager or other person in charge of the said railroad.

19. When any person is desirous that a temporary roadway should be made over, or that a temporary watercourse should be made through any public embankment, or that a temporary dam should be constructed in any embankment, river, or public watercourse, he shall apply to the Engineer, who shall communicate the application to the Collector, and the Collector shall pass such orders thereon as he shall think fit. If the proposed work is to be executed by an officer of Government, the applicant, before the commence-

ment of the work, shall deposit the amount estimated by the Engineer to be necessary to defray the expenses of, and incidental to, making and removing such roadway, or of, and incidental to, making and closing or removing such watercourse or dam. If the amount deposited is found insufficient, the Engineer shall recover from the said applicant the further amount required; and if it exceeds the amount required, such excess shall be returned to the said applicant.

20. Whenever the Engineer shall be of opinion that the removal of any trees, houses, huts, or other buildings, situated between a public embankment and the river, is necessary, he shall make a report to that effect, accompanied by a detailed statement of the trees, houses, huts, or other buildings to be removed, to the Collector of the district in whose jurisdiction the land on which such trees, houses, huts, or other buildings stand, is situated, and the Collector shall report the same to the Lieutenant-Governor in order that proceedings may be taken, in accordance with the provisions of "The Land Acquisition Act, X of 1870," or other law for the time being for the acquisition of land for public purposes, for obtaining possession of such trees, houses, huts, and buildings. Provided always that in case the Collector be of opinion that the delay required by such proceedings is likely to be attended with grave and imminent danger to life or property, it shall be lawful for him forthwith to cause such trees, houses, huts, or buildings to be removed, and in such case the compensation due therefor shall be ascertained and paid in the manner hereinafter provided.

21. Sluices constructed in any public embankment shall be opened or shut only by or with the general or special permission of the officer in the immediate charge of the embankment, under such orders, either general or special, as he may receive from the Engineer.

22. In any case where an embanked towpath has heretofore been maintained by Government alongside any canal, river, khāl, or channel, the Engineer shall be entitled to appropriate, without payment, as heretofore, land or earth for the maintenance, repair, or reconstruction of such embanked towpath. If in any case the Engineer shall consider it necessary for the purposes of towing to enlarge an existing towpath, or to construct a new towpath, proceedings shall be taken in accordance with the subsequent provisions of this Act relating thereto.

23. It shall be lawful for the Engineer, or any person whom he may authorize in that behalf, in order to carry out any of the purposes of this Act, to enter upon, and survey, and take levels of any land; to dig or bore into the subsoil; to do all other acts necessary to ascertain whether the lands is adapted to the purpose projected by such Engineer; or by the Collector;

to set out the boundaries of the land proposed to be taken, and the intended line of the work proposed to be made thereon; to mark such levels, boundaries, and line, by placing marks and cutting trenches; and, where otherwise the survey cannot be completed or the levels taken, to cut down and clear away any part of any standing crop, fence, or jungle.

Provided that no person shall enter into any building or upon any enclosed court or garden attached to a dwelling-house (unless with the consent of the occupier thereof) without previously giving such occupier at least seven days' notice in writing of his intention to do so.

The Engineer or other person so authorized shall at the time of such entry pay or tender payment for all necessary damage to be done as aforesaid, and in case of dispute as to the sufficiency of the amount so paid or tendered, he shall at once refer the dispute to the decision of the Collector, and such decision shall be final."

The HON'BLE RAJAH JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE said before the Council proceeded to consider the amendments now before them, he wished to offer a few remarks. The main object of these amendments seemed to him to be the transfer to the Collector of the power originally vested in the Engineer. To him this seemed practically a nominal change. For it was a well-known fact that the hands of the Collector were already too full and that the proper supervision and direction of embankment works would require much more time and attention than he could well spare. Besides, the professional advice of the Engineer would always weigh with the Collector, and that officer it might be imagined would much rather prefer to leave the settlement of embankment questions in the hands of the Engineer than to take the responsibility upon himself. Then again, section 64, as proposed to be amended, distinctly authorized the Collector, at his discretion, to delegate his power to the Engineer, and this would much facilitate that end. So that virtually the matter would remain very much in the same state as it stood in the Bill at

present, and these amendments could in no way be considered improvements. On the contrary, they were likely to do more harm than good. For under the Bill as it stood the Collector held the position of a disinterested judge; but as it was proposed to alter it under the amendment, if the Collector was to have a nominal power, and have the discretion of delegating afterwards that power to the Engineer, he would naturally feel a sort of bias to uphold an authority which he had himself delegated. Under these circumstances, RAJAH JOTENDRO MOHUN TAGORE thought the adoption of the amendments before the Council would be of scarcely any advantage.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said he should like to say one or two words in explanation. It was perfectly true, as the hon'ble member said, that the Collector had his hands pretty full, and that he might not be master of engineering details. But on the other hand, it seemed to him that the most essential and practical advantage of the amendment was this, that as the Bill stood, the Engineer was entitled to take the initiative, and if the Collector was opposed to the proposal of the Engineer, he had to find the means or arguments to controvert the opinion of the Engineer. The Collector in that case was bound to take up the whole case and decide upon it. As the Bill stood, the Collector was not bound to move at all; he was not bound to give any reasons. He might *pooh pooh* the Engineer; he might say, "I am not going to take it up." It was for the Collector to be satisfied that there was necessity before he would move. He was the person who under the law, if the amendment was accepted, would be required to take the initiative. The Engineer would not be in the field until the Collector had taken the initiative. That was entirely different to the case as it now stood, where the Engineer was entitled to take the initiative and force the matter to a decision.

As regards Part IV, it was true the Collector had the power to delegate his powers under that Part to the Engineer. But if hon'ble members would look to that Part they would find that under it none of the radical functions of the Collector could be delegated. The functions that could be delegated were minor and subsidiary, such as the power to make repairs, the power to alter roads, the power to make temporary roadways, watercourses, or drains, the power to remove houses, the power of opening or shutting sluices, the power to take land or earth for embanked tow-paths, the power to enter and survey land, and such like minor powers. These were minor and subsidiary powers altogether of a secondary description, and not the radical and main powers which the Collector was to exercise under the Bill.

THE HON'BLE RAJAH JOTENDRO MOHUN TAGORE observed that under section 64 as proposed to be amended all the powers of the Collector might be delegated to the Engineer. If the delegation were confined to the minor powers referred to by His Honor, he would not have raised the objection.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT remarked that the Council had not yet come to the amendment upon section 64. If the amendment proposed would have the effect suggested by the hon'ble member, the Government would be open to conviction.

THE HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH said the Collector would have all the powers under the Bill. The Collector had very hard work, and he could not do everything himself, he must do the work through the officers of the various departments under his control. He could not, for instance, personally investigate every case of manslaughter. He was the head of the Executive in the district, and must work through his subordinates in the different grades; but he was responsible that the men under him did their work properly; the responsibility was his. The Engineer might be inclined to look to the credit of his work regardless of expense; but now we proposed to place the power of initiation in the hands of one who might be deficient in engineering, but who would study the interests of the parties concerned.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT observed that at any rate they should follow the regular order of the amendments proposed. Until an amendment was made in section 64, the clause would not have that effect. He should be prepared to support the objection raised to the amendment proposed in section 64; but the consideration of that matter must be reserved until they came to it in

regular order. The amendment now before the Council would not have the effect which the hon'ble member apprehended, except as to such minor works as those to which His Honor had referred.

The HON'BLE RAJAH JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE observed that his objection was as to the tendency of the whole of the amendments. He wished to point out that the amendments would have very little practical effect in altering the state of things in the Bill as it stood, and the objections against vesting the Engineers with too large powers would remain much the same.

The motion to substitute the amended Parts II, III, and IV was then agreed to.

The HON'BLE BAROO DIGUMBER MITTER rose to move the amendments of which he had given notice, when—

The HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH said the notice given by the hon'ble member had not been sufficiently long in the hands of the members. The discussion upon the amendments under consideration would not now be closed, and the hon'ble member could have an opportunity of bringing forward his amendments at the next meeting. The notice of amendments of the hon'ble member only reached Mr. SCHALCH that morning, and he had scarcely had the opportunity of considering their bearing upon the Bill.

The HON'BLE BAROO DIGUMBER MITTER observed that the amendment which he was first about to propose was an amendment upon an amendment, and was rendered necessary by the amendments of the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, and therefore hardly required notice.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said that although ordinarily an amendment upon an amendment did not require notice, it might be of such an important nature as to necessitate much consideration. He himself had only received the notice that morning, and would ask the hon'ble member to postpone his amendments until the next meeting, when he could have an opportunity of bringing them forward.

The HON'BLE BAROO DIGUMBER MITTER observed that after the explanation given by HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT that it was not the intention to pass the Bill at present, he would agree to postpone the consideration of his amendments until the next meeting of the Council.

The HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH moved the substitution of the following for section 30, the only alteration being a legal one as to the mode of referring to the Land Acquisition Act:—

"30. Whenever in the course of proceedings under this Act, save in those cases in which the Collector has proceeded under the provisions of Part III, it appears that land is required for any of the purposes thereof, proceedings shall be forthwith taken for the acquisition of such land in accordance with the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, X of 1870, or any other law for the time being in force for the acquisition of lands for public purposes."

The motion was agreed to.

On the motion of MR. SCHALCH verbal alterations were made in sections 32, 35, 38, 39, 40, 42, 43, 56, 60, 65, and 67.

The amendments in reference to sections 57, 59, and 60 were, by leave, withdrawn.

With reference to the proposed amendment to section 64—

The HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH said the object of these amendments was to give the Collector power to delegate his powers to the Engineer.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT observed that he did certainly think that the amendment was open to the objection urged by the hon'ble member on the right (RAJAH JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE). The section, as proposed to be amended, would read thus:—

"All the powers and authorities vested in the Collector by any of the sections of this Act may be exercised by the engineer in cases referred to him by the Collector, provided always that it shall be lawful for the Collector to recall any case so referred, and to proceed thereon, either adopting or not adopting any of the proceedings theretofore had thereon as to him shall seem fit."

HIS HONOR thought the section had better be omitted altogether.

The HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH said the Collector could not exercise all these powers himself. It must be first judicially settled whether in any particular case

the Collector should exercise the powers proposed to be vested in him, and then when it had been decided that he should exercise these powers, he would delegate the execution of them to the Engineer. He could not delegate the power until it had been determined that he should exercise it. He would however, at the suggestion of the PRESIDENT, withdraw the amendment at present, and consider whether it was necessary to bring it forward again at the next meeting.

The amendment was by leave withdrawn.

The HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH moved that after section 66 the following section be inserted: it was a mere transposition of section 21 of the Bill to this place, where it came in better, as it applied to all inquiries, and not merely to inquiries under Part III:—

"In any inquiry or appeal held under this Act, the Collector and the Commissioner shall respectively have the same powers as those conferred on courts by the Code of Civil Procedure of summoning and examining witnesses, and compelling the production of documents."

The motion was agreed to.

The HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH moved the insertion of the following section after the above, the object being to give a general power of control under the Act:—

"All the powers of a Collector under this Act shall be exercised under the general control and orders of the Commissioner of the division, and all the powers of Collectors and Commissioners shall be exercised subject to the general control and orders of the Board of Revenue and of the Government."

The motion was agreed to.

The HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH moved that it be an instruction to the Secretary to alter the numbers of the sections and letters of the schedules accordingly.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT observed that he put the motion without prejudice as to the necessity of it. His impression was that the Secretary, under the direction of the President, had this power without the necessity of a motion in Council, and that such was the practice in the Legislative Council of the Governor-General.

The motion was agreed to.

The HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH said, Schedules (A) and (B) were not now both necessary, and had therefore been amalgamated. He would move that the following schedule be substituted for Schedules A and B, as they now stood in the Bill:

"SCHEDULE A.—(Referred to in Section 6.)

All persons interested are hereby required to take notice that it is my intention to [here state the nature of the work to be undertaken] for the purpose of [state the purposes]. For the execution of this work the undermentioned land will be required to be taken up:—

1	2	3
Pergunnah in which land is situated.	Name of village in which land is situated.	Area of land.

Plans, specifications, and estimates of the proposed work, together with a copy of the survey map showing the boundaries of the various estates likely to be affected by the said work, are herewith submitted.

The total probable cost of such work will be the sum of Rs. , and the rate per acre of the area benefited or protected by the said work is estimated at Rs. .

The following estates and villages will probably be affected by the work proposed [here set out a list of the estates and villages]:

Any person interested and desirous of showing cause against the execution of the works specified is hereby required to appear before the Collector for that purpose on the day of The day of

A.
Collector of

The motion was agreed to.

On the motion of MR. SCHALCH verbal amendments were made in Schedules (C) and (D).

The further consideration of the Bill was postponed.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said care would be taken that the Bill as amended would be placed in the hands of the members at the earliest possible period, and hon'ble members would have time to consider the Bill, and if they so wished, to circulate notices of amendments. He hoped that if they wished to do so, the notices would be circulated at an early date.

The Council was adjourned to Saturday, the 13th instant.

Saturday, the 13th September 1873.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *presiding.*

The Hon'ble G. C. PAUL, *Acting Advocate-General.*

The Hon'ble V. H. SCHALCH,

The Hon'ble LORD ULICK BROWNE.

The Hon'ble C. E. BERNARD,

The Hon'ble MOULVY ABDOL LUTEEF, KUAN BAHADOOR,

The Hon'ble T. M. ROBINSON,

The Hon'ble RAJAH JOTKENDRO MOHUN TAGORE, BAHADOOR,

AND

The Hon'ble BABOO DIGUMBER MITTER.

EMIGRATION TO THE LABOR DISTRICTS.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said the first business before the Council was the adjourned debate on the Bill to amend the law relating to the emigration of laborers to the districts of Assam, Cachar, and Sylhet. Amendments had been placed on the paper in His Honor's name, the object of which was to carry out what he intimated it might be desirable to do, namely, to put in a definite form the changes which it seemed to him might be possible. His own opinion had not been definitely formed; the opinion of the Council was not definite. At the same time, the learned Advocate-General had observed on a late occasion that there was room for a great deal of misunderstanding as long as propositions were not placed in a clear and definite shape. The object was to put his suggestions into the form of amendments, clear and definite. The Council would observe that His Honor had also proposed that the discussion be adjourned for the space of two months; so that we might consult all concerned. We should consult the officers of Government, planters, and coolies, as regards the particular points raised by these amendments, and we should give all parties interested, and the public in general, an opportunity of suggesting any thing more they might have to say in regard to the whole Bill before the Council. He might add, the Government would have an opportunity of communicating with the Government of India upon the subject. It would be seen that the amendments, of which notice had been given, were several. He thought it well, at the outset, to distinguish Cachar from Sylhet; because it might be that those interested in Sylhet would think it desirable to remove Sylhet from the operation of the Act, whilst those interested in Cachar might not think it desirable to remove Cachar. Therefore he put first an amendment which proposed to omit "Cachar" from the operation of this Bill, and secondly, another amendment proposing to omit "Sylhet." The result of the omission of those words would be that those districts would be wholly removed from the operation of this Labor District Act. The consequence would be that, if the amendments were accepted, Sylhet would be in the same position as Mymensingh now was, or any other district in Bengal; and if the amendment in regard to Cachar was also accepted, it would be in the same position; the movements of laborers in those districts would be perfectly free, and the

relations of the coolies with regard to their masters would be regulated by the ordinary law of the land, the law of contract, and that provision of the Penal Code to which he had adverted. His Honor was not himself thoroughly up in the provisions of the various laws which regulated the carriage of the passengers. It might be necessary to enact certain provisions in order to secure that vessels carrying a large number of persons should do so in a manner consistent with their safety, and freedom from disease. This might apply to many parts of the country and to many rivers of this country. But in so far as the special provisions of this Bill were concerned, the rough general effect of the first two amendments, if they were accepted by this Council, would be wholly to remove Cachar and Sylhet from the operation of this Bill, and to place them on the same footing as all the rest of the country.

Then, he came to the third amendment, which he would take in connection with the fourth amendment, because the third amendment was merely subsidiary to the fourth. The fourth amendment was one which was adopted *totidem verbis*, in so many words, from the British Burmah Emigration Bill now before the Council of the Governor-General. His Honor had said that although the Committee of this Council had expressed themselves unfavorably to the concurrent operation of a free system of recruiting and a special system of recruiting, the representative of the Government of India in the Governor-General's Council had taken an opposite view, and had expressed an opinion that it would be very desirable that the free system should not be checked, but that opportunity should be given to those who preferred a free system to adopt it. The shape in which that proposition was put in the Governor-General's Council was the shape in which it was now expressed in the fourth amendment submitted to this Council. The result was that while recruiting otherwise than under the Act would in no degree be a penal offence, on the other hand no contract to go to the labor districts would be binding upon the emigrant unless made in accordance with the provisions of this Act. The consequence would be that if people did not recruit under the Act, they would recruit to a certain extent on their own risk; they would not be punishable. But contracts made before the emigrants reached the labor districts would not be valid and binding upon those laborers. A man who agreed to go was defined to be an emigrant under the Act until he reached the labor districts; when he reached the labor districts he became a laborer, and was no longer an emigrant. So long as he was in the stage of an emigrant he would not be bound by any contract to labor, which he might make otherwise than under the provisions of this Act. But when he reached the labor districts he ceased to become an emigrant; he then became a free man, and was competent to contract as any other local laborer might now contract. His Honor proposed by the third amendment to alter the definition of "emigrant" to meet that. As the definition stood an emigrant was only a man recruited by a garden-sirdar or recruiter, and registered. He proposed to strike out those words, and he proposed to make the definition to be simply this, that an emigrant would be a person who had agreed to proceed to a labor district for the purpose of laboring therein for hire. The consequence would be that in respect to whatever districts the Council might retain as labor districts, the emigrant would be subject to the provisions of the Act until he reached those districts. If the emigrants were conveyed in gangs not exceeding twenty, they were exempt from the operation of the passenger provisions of the Act, and they would be free to go as they liked; but although not recruited under the Act, if conveyed in large batches and in crowded steamers, they would still be emigrants and subject to the sanitary provisions of the Act. On reaching the labor districts they would be free, and free to contract under the ordinary law. There were various ways in which this question of free recruiting could be put. His Honor had put it in that form because it had the high authority of the member in charge of the Bill in the Council of the Governor-General. At the same time it would be free to the members of the Council and others interested to suggest that free recruiting should be put in any other form.

Then he came to the last amendment, which was on a different subject, and referred to a subject not so directly and distinctly mooted before the Council. On the last occasion there was a discussion on this Bill

which had the appearance somewhat of a difference of opinion,—he hoped there was not a final difference of opinion,—but there was a certain conflict of argument between the learned Advocate-General and himself in regard to the use of the term “slavery” under the labor laws. His Honor said it seemed to him that the absence of freedom under the present labor law was of a very different character from the absence of freedom under the ordinary law of contract. As the Bill at present stood, it seemed to him that a form of *quasi-slavery* was involved in the 123rd section: it made it that a cooly was not a free man under the ordinary protection of the law; if he attempted to run away, his master might seize him as a master seizes a runaway slave, without the intervention of any legal proceeding. That was a kind of fugitive slave law. His Honor’s experience was that that provision had been to a certain extent the subject of occasional abuse. He knew that there had been gardens in which there were cordons of chowkidars, and in which the coolies were kept somewhat like prisoners in a jail. At the same time he must state distinctly that he believed that such a state of things was altogether the exception. We had lately published in the *Gazette* a description of the tea gardens submitted by the Commissioner of Assam, in which he told us that the condition of the tea gardens, of the planters, and of the coolies, had greatly improved; that the condition of the gardens as a rule was good, and that the coolies were happy and contented. His Honor’s view of the matter was that in these good gardens where the masters were well-to-do, where the coolies were happy and contented, they did not require a fugitive slave law like this. These gardens could get on very well without it. On the other hand, in the rare cases in which abuses took place, in which the power of arrest was abused, it was desirable that that power should be removed. He did not pledge himself to an opinion on that point. He quite agreed that a great deal was to be said on both sides, and he placed the amendment on the paper in order that the matter might be fully discussed, that those interested in the matter might have an opportunity of giving their opinion, and that we might have a full expression of all that had to be said on both sides. He confessed that whilst he thoroughly acknowledged and saw with the greatest pleasure the great improvement which had taken place in the tea districts, he personally regarded with very considerable repugnance that particular provision which he had called a sort of fugitive slave law, and he thought we should consider whether we could put the laborers more in the position of free men. He had therefore deemed it fairer to put this amendment on the paper at once, that all interested might be warned that it was under consideration whether we could do without the first two clauses of section 123. The penal law for the punishment of desertion, the means of arresting deserters and putting them to labor by legal process, would remain the same as before. The whole change would be this, that, instead of the planter taking the law into his own hands and seizing a deserting laborer, he would be bound to follow and prosecute him. The deserter would still be liable to punishment, and liable to the provision which forced him to work out his contract.

These were the amendments which His Honor thought it right to place before the Council. He did not propose now to press them on for decision. He quite agreed with the Committee that these questions were not ripe for decision, and in that view he proposed that the discussion of the above amendments be adjourned for the space of two months.

The question was then put that the discussion of the following amendments, of which notice had been given, be adjourned for the space of two months:—

In the Preamble and in section 3, clause 3, definition of “Labor Districts,” omit the word “Cachar.”

In the Preamble and in section 3, clause 3, definition of “Labor Districts,” omit the word “Sylhet.”

Section 3, clause 6, definition of “Emigrant,” omit the words “with any garden-sirdar or recruiter” and the words “and has been registered as hereinafter provided.”

Omit sections 15, 16, and 17, and substitute the following new section:—

“No contract to labor in the Labor Districts shall be binding on an emigrant unless it is made in accordance with this Act.”

Section 123.—Omit clauses 1 and 2.

The motion was agreed to.

[To be continued.]

MARINE SURVEYS—RESPONSIBILITIES OF SURVEYORS.

RESOLUTION.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

Calcutta, the 16th September 1873.

READ—

Letters No. 4785, dated 1st September, and No. 5004, dated 11th September, from the Officiating Master Attendant reporting on the case of the *Shahjehan* Emigrant Ship.

1. With reference to recent events and rumours, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks it very necessary that Government and the public should fully understand the modes, rules, and practice of marine surveys made in this port, and the responsibilities of the surveyors, in cases where the law requires such survey. His Honor would also wish to have for purposes of analogy and comparison, similar information regarding the surveys made by private surveyors for the various Marine Insurance Companies. There have lately been two or three very serious mishaps to ships passed for the conveyance of emigrants and passengers. One vessel, the *Indus*, has, it is feared, foundered at sea with all hands. She is, however, believed to have been a first class vessel. Another (the *Shahjehan*) has put back leaky from the Sandheads. Without saying that there is blame attributable in any case, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that certainly full enquiry should be made into the general practice of the port.

2. From the Master Attendant's letters in the case of the *Shahjehan* it appears that she was surveyed by an Assistant Master Attendant on the 26th August, who certified in the usual printed form that her "hull was sound, tight, staunch, and firm in the fastenings," and that she was "sea-worthy and in all respects fit for the reception and carriage of passengers." The details of survey are set out in the shape of answers to queries on a large printed form, but some of these are not filled up. It appears that she was also privately surveyed on the 21st July and the 17th August, when she was pronounced to be "in excellent condition about the hull, a good insurance risk, and a vessel well adapted for the carriage of East Indian Emigrants." On her return to port from outside a few days later owing to serious leakage, further surveys were held by the Government Surveyor and by two private surveyors, who discovered "on closer examination a graving piece which had been let into the fourth plank from the water's edge on the port bow; on removing which they found that the wood of the plank under it was quite rotten. Also that there was a hole quite through the plank on to the bow timbers." Four planks altogether in the bows had had graving pieces or patches let into them and are now to be replaced by sound planks. On her being placed in dry dock it was further discovered that the metal on the ship's bottom and a large portion of her false keel had been carried away, evidently by her running over a buoy or cable. It is stated that these injuries do not affect the soundness of the hull, and that they were caused by going over a buoy and cable in February last, a circumstance neither entered in the vessel's log nor mentioned by the master to the Government Surveyor when enquiring if the vessel had grounded anywhere since last in dock.

3. As regards the survey, the Lieutenant-Governor is unable to say whether a defect of the kind now acknowledged to exist in the bows should, or should not have been discovered before the vessel left port. The surveyors are apparently of opinion that as the leakage was only serious when the vessel drove into head seas, the master should have discovered it himself and remedied it without returning. That too is a matter upon which only professional seamen can give a satisfactory opinion. The fact remains that a vessel passed as staunch and sea-worthy has to put back with serious leakage from the very mouth of the river and that injuries are then discovered in her bows and hull which were never suspected or discovered by the surveyors.

4. The case of another vessel, *The London*, has been referred to in the public prints. The Lieutenant-Governor has ascertained that this vessel was surveyed for insurance purposes in January and passed as a good risk provided she left in all February drawing not over 18½ feet, and provided a very manifest leak was stopped and very slight repairs effected. The vessel left at the very end of March, without, it is said, the repairs specified, and drawing considerably more than 18½ feet. She had to return leaky and is now, it is believed, condemned as utterly rotten. The law gives Government no power to prevent the departure of a vessel in such a state, when she carries neither emigrants nor native passengers.

5. The Lieutenant-Governor fears that these may be by no means solitary instances. The newspapers mention also the case of the *Mymoon*, but she is said to have been surveyed in Rangoon. The Lieutenant-Governor would wish, however, to have an immediate report of the facts from the Master Attendant.

6. A general impression seems to be abroad that there is grave cause for anxiety and enquiry on this important question in this port. It is believed that one main cause of uncertainty in the survey when made is the practice of deferring the examination till the ship is loaded or half-filled with cargo. It is also certain that in many cases no thorough examination of the hull is attempted.

7. The Lieutenant-Governor desires that the Master Attendant and Government Surveyors will now furnish full and accurate report showing who surveys vessels requiring to be surveyed for Government or emigration purposes; who checks the survey to see that it is sufficient and complete; what rule or practice prevails in regard to surveying such a vessel with cargo in her, in regard to putting her in dock or employing divers for examination of the hull, in regard to testing the soundness of such things as graving pieces, discovery of soft caulking and other defects. The cases should be enumerated in which survey by Government officers is required, and if there is any variety of practice in each case this should be fully explained. The Lieutenant-Governor wishes especially very careful report on the practice in regard to coolie ships. The Protector of Emigrants will also be asked to report on the practice in regard to the selection and survey of these vessels.

8. The Master Attendant will also be good enough to state how and under what conditions ships are privately surveyed and by whom; who appoint the various private surveyors here, and whether they are under any disciplined corporation, such as the Trinity House and Lloyds, &c. The practice of private surveyors as to holding survey when cargo is in and as to docking and examining the hull should be explained.

9. The Lieutenant-Governor will be glad to have information and opinions on this subject from the leading private surveyors and merchants, the Chamber of Commerce, Port Trust Commissioners, and some experienced masters of vessels. Steps will be taken to invite such opinions. It is most desirable that Government should know whether many rotten ships are sent out of this port, and, if so, what remedies it is bound to apply to this evil.

ANNUAL REGISTRATION REPORT FOR 1872-73.

RESOLUTION.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

JUDICIAL.

Calcutta, the 9th September 1873.

READ—

The Report on the administration of the Registration Department in Bengal for 1872-73.

1. The report commences by presenting the general results of registration in Bengal during the year. The number of registrations has risen from 245,270 to 279,080, the increase being nearly equally divided between optional and compulsory registration. The following table shows the figures for 1871-72 and 1872-73 in the principal classes of documents and sub-totals.

		1871-72.	1872-73.
		<i>Compulsory.</i>	
Registration affecting immovable pro- perty	Instruments of sale, &c., of immovable property of value of Rs. 100 and upwards	47,625	54,125
	Perpetual leases	47,181	51,926
	Other leases	62,222	61,914
	<i>Optional.</i>		
	Instruments, of sale, &c., of immovable property under Rs. 100	49,197	59,708
	Leases for one year or less	1,111	1,476
	Miscellaneous documents	4,011	5,678
	Total compulsory registrations affecting immovable property	158,077	174,788
	Total optional registrations affecting immovable property	55,491	67,180
	Total registrations affecting immovable property	213,568	241,918
Registrations other than those affecting immovable property	Obligations for payment of money	21,672	21,969
	All other registrations	10,090	12,193
	Total of above	31,762	37,162
	Number of wills registered	934	1,209

2. The increase, as the Inspector-General remarks, is well distributed over the principal districts, and does not apparently therefore depend upon abnormal local causes. Much of it is probably due to the introduction of the system of rural sub-registrars, to which reference is made below.

3. The process of sub-infeudation by grant of perpetual leases, which the Lieutenant-Governor noticed in last year's Resolution, is still going on at an increased rate, being as before most common in some of the eastern districts. Chittagong with 11,852 such leases, Jessore with 10,932, Backergunge with 8,683, Furrcehpore with 5,257, and Noakhally with 6,128, are far ahead of other districts in this respect, the nearest being the 24-Pergunnahs with 2,251, followed by Burdwan, Hooghly, and Nuddea, with 1,159, 1,075, and 1,380 respectively. None of the others come up to 1,000. The number of ordinary leases registered shows no particular increase, and it is quite certain as before that agricultural leases are not as a rule registered in Bengal. The remarks of some of the district officers in Appendix 11 show that this is due in great measure to the fact that few pottahs are given even when kubooleuts are taken; and that in practice the exchange of pottahs and kubooleuts in any case is comparatively rare. It is suggested that no kubooleut should be registered without a corresponding pottah. But the subject is a very large one which cannot be properly discussed here.

4. The number of registrations of ordinary bonds and deeds not affecting immovable property still continues extremely small, insignificant, it may be said, as compared to the country and population. Full details are this year

given with respect to money bonds. Of a total of 24,969 bonds registered, 1,324 were for sums over Rs. 1,000; 144 for sums between Rs. 500 and Rs. 1,000; 8,927 for sums between Rs. 100 and Rs. 500; 5,900 for sums between Rs. 50 and Rs. 100; 4,580 for sums between Rs. 25 and Rs. 50, and 2,734 for sums less than Rs. 25. The aggregate value of the bonds was Rs. 1,03,18,692 and the fees Rs. 22,871, or a little over 14 annas per bond on the average. Jessore, Nuddea, and the 24-Pergunnahs have most transactions of this class; but in the Sonthal Pergunnahs more bonds for money are presented, in proportion to other registrations, than in any other district.

5. The Inspector-General refers to a suggestion which has been repeatedly made, *viz.* that the registration of bonds should be made compulsory. The Lieutenant-Governor is quite ready to believe that at present the action of the Small Cause Courts is in many instances unsatisfactory, and that compulsory registration of bonds would mitigate this evil. But, as Mr. Wilson sees, such a measure is impossible until registration offices are easily accessible in much greater numbers than at present. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that the difficulty is being overcome, if the measures now ordered are actively carried out.

6. Of 266,018 deeds paying an *ad valorem* fee, 176,008 fell short of Rs. 100 in value. The total value of the property transferred, however, during the year was Rs. 11,34,60,805.

7. The receipts of the department were Rs. 4,35,319, an increase over 1871-72 of Rs. 62,152. But the expenditure has also risen, and, in spite of reductions in establishments at sudder offices and in salaries, has increased by Rs. 23,821 to Rs. 3,01,782, exclusive of the cost of printing and stationery. The cause of this is the establishment of new offices, and the surrender to new rural registrars of a great portion of the fees received; but this will in time, it is hoped, be more than made up for by a general increase of the number of registrations.

8. The year closed with 167 registration offices at work, increased by ten since the year closed. Eleven new rural offices were opened during the year, and ten more since its close—making thirty-four such offices at places other than sub-divisional head-quarters. At seven sub-divisions also special officers have been appointed; but it is not intended, save under special circumstances, to relieve sub-divisional officers of their duties in this department. At twenty sudder stations of importance special sub-registrars are entertained to relieve and assist the district officer, but during the year it has been determined to pay all future incumbents of these offices partly by salary and partly by commission, instead of by a fixed salary as hitherto. The Lieutenant-Governor must express his belief that the number of officers is still by far too few, and he will not be satisfied till they are three or four times as numerous. So lately in 1864 as many as 450 Kazis' offices were abolished and they should certainly be replaced by as many modern offices.

9. The Lieutenant-Governor is satisfied that the system of rural sub-registrars is being judiciously, though very slowly, introduced; he trusts that efforts will be made to carry out the system more rapidly. His Honor has sanctioned experimentally in one or two instances Mr. Wilson's plan of appointing additional sub-registrars to a sub-district without giving them local limits within the sub-district. He does not understand Mr. Wilson's expressions from which it would seem that one office is appointed as supplementary to two *sub-divisions*. This must not be allowed. Each office must belong solely to one registration sub-division. All that can be allowed is that in cases where locality is not the essence of the contract, people should have the option of going to that one of two or three offices in one division which is most convenient to them. In that view the experiment is interesting and important; but Mr. Wilson is requested to report clearly the terms and conditions which he would lay down for these offices. If this plan is adopted, the executive sub-division will no doubt be the best registration area.

10. It is gratifying to learn that the inspection of rural offices has shown that they are, on the whole, quite as well managed as sub-divisional offices used to be, and that there is already an increase in the registration work of the selected

localities. The importance, however, of frequent inspection by district officers and special sub-registrars, as well as by the inspecting officers of the department, cannot be too strongly insisted on. The Lieutenant-Governor fully recognises that at least two Inspectors must be maintained. The people must be made to see that these offices, opened for their convenience, are as effective and satisfactory as those at the sudder stations.

11. The Lieutenant-Governor does not think that much would be gained by asking the High Court to order civil courts to communicate with the Registration Department whenever they reject a registered instrument. Documents may be rejected for various reasons with which the Registration Department has no concern; but whenever it becomes a question as to the genuineness of the instrument, the proceedings in the Registration Department would almost necessarily pass under review, and the department would probably become aware of the facts without any special notice. The High Court will however be moved to direct the Civil Court to communicate respecting cases in which doubt is thrown on the proceedings of the Registration Office.

12. The provision of proper offices and record racks at sudder stations has been pushed on vigorously during the year.

13. The question raised by the Inspector-General in paragraph 25 of the report as to the return of registration fees, will be brought to the notice of the Government of India. This is one of several complaints of great inconvenience resulting from recent departmental orders of the Account Department. Permanent advances have however been sanctioned to enable sub-registrars to return fees promptly at places where there is no treasury.

14. Referring to paragraph 27, the Lieutenant-Governor does not see how it would be possible for the department to insist on registrants using printed forms of documents. But probably the public would be glad to use these if they were available, and the Inspector-General may consider if, as an experiment, a few forms of the most common deeds might not be printed in blank, as suggested by Mr. Irwin, and sold at low rates by the registration offices. It is very true that it is a terrible hindrance to registration when all the verbiage of verbose mookhtars must be copied, especially when there are very many deeds all similar to one another.

15. The Inspector-General's historical note on the system of Kazi registration is interesting. His conclusion is that the Kazis' records are of no little practical value, the system having fallen into great neglect before it was abolished. There is however reason to believe that in some districts the wants of the Mahomedan population were not sufficiently considered in its sudden abolition, and no effort must be spared to give them something better.

16. The Lieutenant-Governor notices with satisfaction that Baboo Chunder Mohun Chatterjee of Calcutta, Mr. Rattray of Gya, and Baboo Mohesh Chunder Bose of Nookhali, are spoken of as deserving of special credit.

Mr. Beverley's services have been repeatedly acknowledged. The Lieutenant-Governor considers that Mr. Wilson, during the tenure of his present office, has shown much activity and zeal, and has done much good. His Honor hopes, however, that he will put things in train to increase materially the number of rural registration offices before he goes. He also trusts that the work of simplifying returns and statements, alluded to in Mr. Wilson's 25th paragraph, will be well carried out by him.

ANNUAL REPORT ON COLONIAL AND FOREIGN EMIGRATION
FOR THE YEAR 1872-73.

RESOLUTION.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

Calcutta, the 10th September 1873.

READ—

A letter, No. 887½, dated 18th June, but received on the 28th August, from the Protector of Emigrants, being his Annual Report on Colonial and Foreign Emigration for the year 1872-73.

1. The principal features in this year's returns are the great increase in the number of emigrants despatched to the British colonies, and the addition of the Dutch colony of Surinam to the places which draw upon India for agricultural labour. During the years 1870-71 and 1871-72 the annual despatch of emigrants was but little over 8,000. In the year just past it rose to 17,171, Demarara alone taking 6,087, Mauritius 5,262, Trinidad 3,850, Jamaica 1,562, and Surinam 410. It is satisfactory to know that simultaneously with this great development of emigration the terms offered by the colonies to their imported labourers have been put upon a clearer and surer basis than heretofore, a minimum rate of wages being now provided by law in nearly all cases. The fact that St. Vincent offering lower terms than any other colony and guaranteeing no minimum rate of wages, was unable to get labour, ought to convince the planters in that island that it is for their interest to treat their immigrants in a more liberal spirit.

2. As regards Surinam, the terms offered are fair enough, following as closely as possible those provided by the new ordinance for British Guiana.

3. Of course, with such an increased demand for labour, the number of recruiters has been largely increased, viz. from 171 to 258. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to see that the system of preliminary enquiry into character before granting license has resulted in fewer cases of cancellation for misbehaviour, only nine in all being reported during the year. His Honor is, nevertheless, far from being satisfied that the recruiters as a class are under proper control or are generally a reliable body of men. If, however, it be true, as stated, that the Emigration Agents are now themselves impressed with the necessity of getting more trustworthy servants, it may be hoped that through their co-operation, and with some amendment of the Act, a greatly improved state of things will be possible.

4. The dépôts are reported to have been on the whole well managed. The Agent for Surinam has not been able yet to put his dépôt into such satisfactory order as those of the old established agencies, but the Lieutenant-Governor has reason to believe that Mr. Durham is anxious to do what is right, and trusts that, with the experience of other Agents to guide him, and Dr. Grant's advice and supervision, he may soon get matters into proper train. Dr. Grant must at any rate insist on this being done.

5. The great majority of the emigrants come from the North-West Provinces, Oudh, and Central India, 12,594 of the whole number despatched having been recruited there. Behar comes next, sending 3,412; while Bengal only contributed 925, and of these most were picked up in Calcutta or its neighbourhood. The whole of Eastern Bengal sent only 40 emigrants into the dépôts. From the tables at the end of the report it is gathered that the classes who emigrate stood thus as to numbers (souls, not statute adults):—

	Brahmins and high castes	..	..	..	2,521
Hindoes	Agricultural castes	..	..	..	4,974
	Artizans	..	..	..	1,637
	Low castes	..	..	..	5,809
Mussulmans	..	..	..	..	2,919
Christians	..	..	..	..	8

6. The proportion of women to men has been maintained throughout the year, except in the case of Mauritius and Surinam. It is understood, however, that the deficiency in these instances has been since made up.

7. The figured returns of the detention and mortality of emigrants in depôt, mortality on the voyage, &c., are promised as soon as the colonial reports are received. The Lieutenant-Governor thinks that the returns of detention and mortality in depôt might accompany this report in future, leaving the mortality on the voyage only for subsequent consideration.

8. The successful results of the *Enmore's* voyages to Demarara under steam has led the Lieutenant-Governor to propose that no restriction should be placed on full-powered steamers as to the time of year at which they may take emigrants. So far the experiment shows that the voyage may be made by them in half the time taken by sailing vessels, and with inappreciable mortality. The incomplete figures on page 8 show that in some of the voyages by sailing ships this year the mortality was excessive, while it is much feared that one ship which sailed in January has been lost with all hands; but the Lieutenant-Governor will await the complete returns. He observes that it has been necessary to declare one master and three surgeons unfit to have to do with emigrants again. The almost certain loss of the *Indus* with 418 emigrants on board ■ ■ sad calamity.

9. From Mauritius, Demarara, and Jamaica 3,314 emigrants returned to India. Their condition was satisfactory, and the only mortality was among return invalids. No complete statement of their savings is given. The coolies are very reticent on this point; but it is noted that 74 return emigrants from Mauritius remitted Rs. 42,774 between them, and Rs. 2,16,106 were brought home by 551 labourers from Demarara, Rs. 14,583 of it belonging to one man.

10. The Lieutenant-Governor has to thank Dr. Grant for many careful and valuable reports during the past year, and for the conscientious and pains-taking manner in which he has performed the duties of his office. His Honor trusts that in spite of the great increase of work referred to in the early part of the report, the increase sanctioned for the office establishment will be found able to cope with it. Much of the press of work has been due to abnormal causes connected with enquiries into the emigration system, and Acts which will very soon, it may be hoped, receive final settlement.

11. The Lieutenant-Governor notices with regret the death of Mr. Warner, so long connected with emigration from this port. Mr. Firth, who has taken up the work of both the Demarara and Trinidad Agencies, seems anxious to improve the system and get rid of undesirable sub-agents and recruiters. In this he will always have the support of this Government. Under Mr. Bales the Mauritius Agency has worked, as usual, quietly and well. The Lieutenant-Governor hopes soon to hear that the labour laws of the Mauritius have been put on as satisfactory a footing as those of the West Indian colonies are now assuming.

REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE SALT MARKET FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1873-74.

No. 415B., dated Fort William, the 22nd August 1873.

From—T. B. LANE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L. P.,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

I AM directed by the Member in charge to submit the following report on the state of the salt market for the first quarter of 1873-74, comprising the months of April, May, and June last.

2. The quantity of salt consumed (i.e., the quantity of total clearances of salt of all descriptions) in the quarter under report amounted to 17,14,507 maunds, against 19,17,888 maunds in the previous quarter, and 17,61,675 maunds in the corresponding quarter of the previous year; and the total amount of duty levied was Rs. 55,72,148, against Rs. 62,83,136 and Rs. 57,25,444 in the previous and corresponding quarters, respectively.

3. The quantity of Government salt sold at the Presidency and Hidgollie under wholesale rowannahs amounted to 2,385 maunds, as shown in the margin, giving a monthly average of 795 maunds, against 100 maunds in the previous quarter and 183½ maunds in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

4. There were no sales of Government salt at Pooree during the present or previous quarters, all the Government salt which remained there having been destroyed under the sanction given in Government order No. 523, dated 10th November 1872. The sales during the first quarter of 1872-73 at Pooree amounted to 400 maunds.

5. The quantity of excise salt sold in Cuttack, Balasore, Pooree, and the 24-Pergunnahs, during the present quarter, from the stock of the different seasons, and the quantity which remained in store at the close of the quarter, are shown in the following table I.

The Government will observe with satisfaction that in Pooree as much as 1,20,629 maunds was manufactured.

I.

	CUTTACK.				BALASORE.				POOREE.				24-PERGUNNAH.	
	Manufactures of				Manufactures of				Manufactures of				Manufactures of	
	1869-70.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1872-73.	1869-70.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1872-73.	1869-70.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1872-73.	1871-72.	1872-73.
	Mds.	Mds. S.	Mds. S.	Mds. S.	Mds. S. C.	Mds. S. C.	Mds. S. C.	Mds. S.	Mds. S.	Mds. S.	Mds. S.	Mds. S.	Mds.	Mds.
Balance at close of last quarter ...	13,554*	32,810 20	24,557 10	11,490 21	20,006 25	52,376 18 13	46,000 10	13,017 3	706 6	60,873	287 10	9,280	5,634	
Manufactured or added during the quarter ...						370 5 0†	47,014 30	470 0†		485†	1,20,010 10		6,502	
Total ...	13,554	32,810 20	24,557 10	11,860 21	20,006 25	52,746 23 13	46,505 0	14,108 3	706 6	61,358	1,20,006 20	9,280	17,136	
Deduct—														
Sales during the quarter ...	5,982	12 0	2,133 0	1,750 0	13,123 0 0	56,538 10 0	1,201 0	1,703 0		61,502			5,000	
Wastage ...		277 15			3,760 16 13			11,820 6						
Total ...	5,982	280 15	2,133 0	1,750 0	16,883 16 13	56,594 10 0	1,201 0	13,907 0		61,502			5,000	
Balance at close of the quarter ...	8,564*	32,529 25	22,424 10	10,110 21	3,123 0 12	2,252 13 13	45,304 0	2,205 3	706 6	59,856	1,20,006 20	4,280	17,136	

It will be observed from the above that the total clearances, or sales, of excise salt during the quarter under review amounted to 1,15,797 maunds, against 1,05,709 maunds in the previous quarter, and 1,03,946 maunds in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

6. The subjoined Table II shows, comparatively, the total importation into the port of Calcutta, and the total clearances of sea-imported salt

* These include 451 maunds of Pooree-made salt in Fettehmoollah (Johah).
† These represent surplus salt ascertained on clearance of golahs.

during the quarter under notice, and the corresponding quarters of the previous two years:—

II.

	1ST QUARTER OF 1871-72.		1ST QUARTER OF 1872-73.		1ST QUARTER OF 1873-74.	
	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Liverpool Fungah	20,38,023	12,34,024	10,31,116	12,81,307	15,36,270	12,25,614
Foreign Kurkutch	40,186	28,157	1,31,010	1,37,351	42,150	1,22,514
Indian ditto	1,63,150	1,95,977	1,89,635	1,80,851	2,10,000	1,96,355
English ditto	...	4,510	...	...	...	...
Total	22,36,360	14,63,568	13,45,761	16,99,109	18,49,380	15,43,839

7. The following are the details of the Indian Kurkutch salt shown above:—

III.

	1ST QUARTER OF 1871-72.		1ST QUARTER OF 1872-73.		1ST QUARTER OF 1873-74.	
	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Calcutta	...	38,260	...	...	...	...
Bombay	54,370	1,21,121	1,49,635	1,39,291	1,61,900	1,50,005
Madras	37,600	36,653	...	41,500	40,000	39,374
Calcutta	...	...	...	...	...	10,000
Calcutta	72,280	...	40,000	...	...	...
Total	1,63,150	1,95,977	1,89,635	1,80,851	2,10,000	1,96,355

8. Table IV shows the quantity of sea-imported salt remaining in the warehouses at the close of the quarter, as compared with the results of the previous four quarters.

IV.

WAREHOUSES.	1st quarter of 1872-73.	2nd quarter of 1872-73.	3rd quarter of 1872-73.	4th quarter of 1872-73.	1st quarter of 1873-74.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Calcutta Government godowns	18,30,602	11,70,239	10,70,117	17,03,210	10,61,853
Hooghly godowns	93,574	10,862	6,063	...	...
Hooghly Government godowns	1,06,479	1,08,067	1,51,295	1,28,573	70,381
Total	21,30,655	13,89,168	12,27,475	18,31,783	20,41,234

9. Table V exhibits the despatches of salt from Calcutta by water and the three railways, passing the several salt pass stations into the interior of the country, both east and west of the River Hooghly, during the quarter under review, and the corresponding quarters of the previous two years.

The quantity carried by the East Indian Railway shows a considerable increase.

V.

Period.	Via Dullikhal.	Via Seckrail.	Via Gowa-Mulea.	Via Kidderpore.	Via Raha-ghatta.	By the East Indian Railway.	By the Eastern Bengal Railway.	By the Calcutta and N. E. Railway.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1st quarter of 1871-72	4,04,680	1,33,181	1,22,250	78,306	4,01,634	2,05,995	14,283	34
Do ditto 1872-73	3,08,269	1,17,600	57,694	78,594	4,61,632	3,68,327	7,226	29
Do ditto 1873-74	2,81,089	1,33,188	63,308	74,318	4,56,295	4,37,057	8,184	190

The quantity of salt despatched by the East Indian Railway to stations beyond Buxar in the quarter under review amounted to 17,446 maunds, as noted on the margin, against 8,111 maunds in the previous quarter, and 13,520 maunds in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

10. The shipments of Liverpool salt for the port of Calcutta, according to published market reports, were as follows:—

	Tons.
April	10,984
May	16,655
June	24,267
Total	51,896

No shipments were made during the quarter under report for the port of Chittagong.

11. The market prices per 100 maunds of Liverpool and other descriptions of salt at the close of each fortnight during the quarter, as compared with those obtaining during the same period last year, are shown in the following Table VI:—

VI.

DESCRIPTION OF SALT.	Prices on 15th April		Prices on 30th April		Prices on 15th May		Prices on 31st May		Prices on 15th June		Prices on 30th June	
	1872.	1873.	1872.	1873.	1872.	1873.	1872.	1873.	1872.	1873.	1872.	1873.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Liverpool Pungah	41	73	52	81	69	93	76	85	83	97	92	99
French Kerkutch	57	55	58	53	60	55	61	60	62	65	61	65
Jeddah ditto	77	70	77	76	80	75	84	78	80	79	80	78
Ceylon ditto	105	...	65	...	65	...	65	...	65	...	65	...
Scinde ditto	38	...	38	...	38	...	38	...	38	...	38	...
Bombay ditto	51	40	62	59	44	39	41	45	47	46	46	46
Madras ditto	57	62	67	63	67	63	66	63	67	63	69	63

12. In Table VII are exhibited the total quantities of salt that were available for the private export trade at the several depôts in the Madras Presidency on the first day of each of the three months constituting the quarter under report, and the corresponding quarters of 1871-72 and 1872-73.

VII.

Months.	1871-72.	1872-73.	1873-74.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
April	6,49,117	6,42,282	5,16,264
May	6,4,1856	6,24,877	2,91,706
June	6,24,142	6,29,677	2,65,746

13. Table VIII shows the quantities of sea-imported salt admitted into bond, and cleared from bond and shipboard at Chittagong, during the quarter under review and the corresponding quarter of 1872-73, respectively:—

VIII.

DESCRIPTION OF SALT.	ADMITTED INTO BOND.		CLEARED.	
	1st quarter of 1872-73.	1st quarter of 1873-74.	1st quarter of 1872-73.	1st quarter of 1873-74.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Liverpool Pungah	55,028	...	54,388	52,286
Madras Kerkutch	...	5,050	2,282	100
Total	55,028	5,050	56,670	52,386

No transactions in sea-imported salt have been reported for the quarter from any of the Orissa ports.

Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather, State and Prospects of the Crops in the Different Districts of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending the 13th September 1873.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sadler Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	REMARKS.
BENGAL.						
<i>Western Districts.</i>		1873.				
BRADWAN DIVISION.	1 Burdwan	Sept. 16th*	3.65	Rainfall in district small.	Good accounts of the crops.	Lower crops.
	2 Baneourah	" 13th	1.66	Shower during the latter part of the week.	All doing well.	General health good.
	3 Beerbhoom	" 13th	1.01	Shower.	Favorable throughout the district.	
	4 Midnapore	" 13th	3.56	Seasonable. Falls of rain very heavy.	Fair. Where the ground is low and the water stands, it rose this year so rapidly and after so much drought that the plants which usually overtop it failed to do so; hence total failure is reported from several places though quite insignificant in area compared to the whole district.	
	5 Hooghly	" 13th	1.28	Clear and cloudy; slight occasional showers.	The prospects of the crops are fair, but more rain wanted.	
PRESIDENCY DIVISION.	Howrah	" 13th	3.39	There was rain more or less every day throughout the district.	Harvesting of some rice crop and jute nearly finished. Transplantation of amun paddy seedling nearly completed. Sugarcane good.	
	<i>Central Districts.</i>					
	6 24 Pargannahs	" 16th*	1.35	Exceedingly close during the first three days of the week, a good fall of rain since.	Jute and amun dhan being cut; prospects of amun good.	Fewer as usual during this part of the year. One fatal case of cholera at Alipore.
	7 Nuddea	" 13th	0.76	Hot and little rain	The amun crop has generally been gathered; the outturn is decidedly good. More rain is wanted for the amun dhan. Rivers and beels very low.	
	8 Jussore	" 13th	1.41	Generally clear and sunny; occasionally cloudy with showers of rain. Wind generally from the south.	The amun dhan has been gathered in. The amun is thriving; indigo manufacture nearly finished.	
RAJSHALYE DIVISION.	9 Moorsheebad	" 13th	1.30	Not much rain during the week. Extremely hot and oppressive.	The autumn harvest has commenced. The outturn will be fair. Amun prospects are still bad through want of rain.	
	10 Dinagpore	" 13th	0.72	Very hot and close; scarcely any rain fell here till the 12th, when there was a good fall, but it was local only.	More rain urgently wanted all over the district to save the rice that has been planted out.	
	11 Maldah	" 13th	1.03	The first day of the week was rainy, the rest hot and sultry. Rain and strong easterly wind again on Saturday, the 13th.	The crops are still suffering from want of rain. The outturn promises to be from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ the average one.	
	12 Rajshahye	" 13th	0.59	There has been some rain throughout the district during the past week.	The prospects of the ropu dhan are extremely unfavorable owing to want of rain; that of amun and amun are better than ropu crop. Amun continue to be reaped; teel and tobacco are now being sown.	A few cases of small-pox have been reported from the Belmuri station.
	13 Rangpore	" 13th	0.12	The week commenced with high winds and has continued cloudy, but without any fall of rain to speak of.	Bad report received about crops, especially to the south and east. The small quantity of winter rice that has been transplanted is drying up for want of rain, and further operations have ceased.	

* Report of the 16th September received on the same day. Shows the rainfall during the seven days immediately preceding.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BENGAL.—(Contd.)						
<i>Central Districts.—(Contd.)</i>						
1873.						
RAJSHAHY DIV.	14 Bograh	Sept. 13th	0·40	The weather has been hot and oppressive, but is cooler now.	The cutting of the aus crop has nearly been completed, but owing to the scanty supply of rain the yield is not good. The same reason renders the prospects of the aman harvest anything but good. The jute has nearly all been cut.	
	15 Pabna	" 13th	1·14	The rain has done some good.	The rice crop is not in a flourishing condition. A ten to twelve annas crop may be expected.	
	16 Dajeping	" 13th	3·78	Frequent heavy showers, thick mist, and high winds. A very smart squall on the evening of the 12th instant at the station.	All the crops in the district are progressing favorably.	
	17 Julpigore	" 13th	1·11	Too little rain is falling...	In the Doona crops generally promise well; nearer the sudder station in Patgram, Bohn, and more especially that part of the district near the Dinagpore district, want of rain has been felt, and some small loss of crop may be expected if it does not rain heavy.	
COOCH BEHAR DIVISION.	Cooch Behar	" 12th	3·43	Generally fine; a thunder storm, with heavy squall of wind and rain, on evening of the 10th and some on the afternoon of the 11th instant.	In the south and west the rainfall has been very deficient, and the prospects of the aman crop in those parts are unfavorable. In other parts the prospects are good. In the south the pools generally used for soaking jute are dry or nearly so, and there will consequently be difficulty in preparing the fibre.	
<i>Eastern Districts.</i>						
DACCA DIVISION.	18 Dacca	" 15th*	0·22	Weather, intense heat on Tuesday and Wednesday; since then hot, with showers.	Prospects of crops good on the whole.	
	19 Furraddpore	" 13th	4·75	Hot and close, gusty, with rain, since the 12th instant.	The aman rice crop on the whole is doing well, but on the high lands, in the north-west of the district, it is yellow and sickly from want of water. The rivers are again falling gradually.	
	20 Backergunge	" 13th	1·42	Warm and close.	Good.	
	21 Mymensing	" 13th	0·73	Hot weather with occasional showers, but no steady rain.	The harvest is likely to be a very poor one owing to deficiency of rainfall.	
	22 Sylhet	" 6th	3·22	Cool after a shower; otherwise close.	More rain yet wanted for the crops on the high land.	
	23 Cachar	" 6th	2·86	Hot and sultry, with slight rain.	More rain still required, but no damage done as yet. Tea operations fair.	
CHITTAGONG DIV.	24 Chittagong	" 6th	3·49	Fine until the 6th, when there has been heavy showers.	Much the same as last week.	
	25 Nonkhally	" 6th	3·64	Rainy and cloudy, with high winds from the east and south.	Aus dhan almost gathered in, and the transplantation of aman dhan not yet completed.	
	26 Tipperah	" 13th	2·83	Heavy rain at commencement of week, since then very hot and close.	Good in some thannahs except in the westernmost thannah, where the winter rice is indifferent. Heavy rain at Brahmanberish. In Brahmanberish the transplanting of the winter crop is said to have been completed; the early rice and jute crops do not appear to have suffered, but winter rice crop has suffered considerably.	

* Telegram of the 16th September received on the same day. Shows the rainfall during the seven days immediately preceding.